COBBETT'S WEEKLY POLITICAL REGISTER.

Vol. XV. No. 24.] LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 1809.

Price 1s.

" Let high Birth triumph. What can be more great?

" Nothing but Merit in a the estate."

Young.

8977

[896

rters

letz, One ered

n of

his

em-

enhas

as a

was

d to

7.-

1 of

nich

my,

ad-

to

sed

ved

the

en.

of

t of

The

and

fter

m-

ri-

the

On

at

en,

he

ike

int

the

to

ind

on

ers

he

llo

of

to

he

in

n-

he

u-

It

of

TO THE

INDEPENDENT PEOPLE OF HAMPSHIRE.

The Court-Martial.

GENTLEMEN.

In a former Letter, I spoke to you upon the subject of the personal attacks, which the associates in corruption were making upon me; of which attacks I shall now speak to you more fully; because, an exposition of the falshood and malice of our enemies will strongly tend to shew, not only that their cause is bad, but that they know it to be bad, and that they have neither fact nor argument to advance in its defence. The truth is this: they see plainly, that, unless they can, by some means or other, destroy the effect of my publications, those publications will, in time, destroy corruption and public-robbery; that is to say, destroy the meat which they feed upon; and, therefore, it is no wonder, that they are making such efforts to destroy the effect of those publications; and, yet, being quite destitute of the means of meeting me in the field of discussion; being quite unable to make head, to stand one moment, against me there, they have recourse to personal attack, just as if any thing that I did twenty years ago could have any connection with what I am now writing upon the subject of Parliamentary Reform; just as if my having acted thus or thus, while I was in the army, could have any connection with what I have now said about the Vote of the 310 upon Mr. Madocks's motion, or about the decision with respect to Castlereagh, Wellesley, and Perceval, compared with the prosecution and sentence of Philip Hamlin. I am accusing the associates in corruption of various crimes against the people; I am exposing their robberies to the people; and I am proposing the means of preventing such robberies in future. Why do not the corrupt defend themselves, if they can? Is it common for the thief to attack the lawyer who is pleading against him? And, if he were to do it, would that gain him any credit with the

jury, or at all tend to save his neck? Of this, one would think, the public robbers must be aware; but, they are so stung; they smart so severely; they are so full of resentment, against all who are not public robbers, that they cannot subdue their passions to the command of reason. Against me, in particular, they entertain such mortal antipathy, that I am sure there is nothing but their cowardice, that withholds them from attempting assassination. In this county especially they are desperate. They have (to whichever set, or gang, they belong) here seen all the respectable part of the people turn their backs upon them with disdain, after having, for so many years, been the dupes of one gang or the other; and this (to them) alarming change they ascribe principally No wonder, therefore, that they are not very nice in their attempts to obtain vengeance.

Some of these attempts I noticed in a former Letter, where I spoke of some of the falshoods and misrepresentations they had made use of. I have now to speak of their last attempt; and, having so done; having once more shown the faishood, the malice, the incomparable baseness of the Associates in Corruption, I will never again take up any part of my paper, or the time of my Readers, with answering any thing that shall be published against me personally. The vile wretches have now published, at an enormous expence; an expence of not less, perhaps, than ten thousand pounds, a thing which they pretend is a true account of a COURT-MARTIAL, in which I was concerned, at the time of my leaving the army, in 1792. Why, Genthemen, they might, when they were at it, as well have gone the full length of the enemies of England in America, and published an account of my being tried for my life and left for execution. They might as well have accused me of high-way robbery, house-breaking, or any other of-fence. There would have been full as much truth in such a charge, as in what they have now published, which is a falshood, from one end to the other, as to what

2 F

90]

hin

joit

173

Cor

was

abo

Ser

ral

a v

nes

at t

tan

mo

mil

unc

this

cal

the

"]

litt

the

of

for

mi

it v

to

it e

and

for

wh

wh

pa

SO,

rev

tur

sel

for

I

wh

pla

tog

ma

def

fla

my

his

rai

we

or

in

we

rit

CO

for

sui

it means to cause to be believed respecting me. It contains, like most other deliberate falshoods, something which is true in words; but, then, the meaning is totally perverted by the suppression of all the material parts of the transaction. Suppose you were to say, " If seiling seats in par-" liament be not punished, it is a shame " to hang a poor fellow for house-break-"ing." Suppose you were to say this; and I, pretending to give an account of what you had said, were to drop the former part of the senience, and accuse you of saying, " It is a shame to hang a " poor fellow for house-breaking." This, though true in words, would be shamefully false in meaning; and yet, even this would not be more base and detestable, than the publication, of which I have spoken above, and which the public robbers are circulating, at such an immense expence, all over the kingdom, and particularly in They have sent hundreds this county. and thousands of copies into Hampshire. All the gentlemen, who signed the last Requisition, have received them for nothing. The post-office at Winchester has charged only a penny for their transmission to Twyford, for instance. The robbers, as they have came down from London in their carriages, have brought with them whole baks, which they have tossed out to all whom they met or overtook upon the road. A few days ago, a landau full of he and she peculators passed through Alton, tossing out these pamphlets as they went. The thing has been put into all the Inns, and other public places, particularly in Winchester, where it would certainly be put into the churches, if they were places of much resort; for, the Winchester Clergy appear to be perfectly convinced, that the way to prove that their brother, DR. O' MEARA, did nothing that was wrong, is to abuse me; that the way to whitewash the church, is to cover me over with dirt.

Now, then, what is this publication, upon which the fool-knaves rely for the demolition of my character? It consists of certain documents, relating to the aforementioned Court-Martial, and, as I shall show you by-and-by, these documents, as they stand in this publication, present to the Reader a tissue of the vilest falshoods. But, first I must give something of a history of the Court-Martial itself.—Late in the year 1721, I returned to England with my regiment, which landed at Portsmouth in the month of November. Very soon after that, I, being then the Serjeant

Major of the regiment, asked for my discharge, which, after many efforts, on the part of the commanding officer, Major Lord Edward Fitzgerald, and of General Frederick, the Colonel of the regiment, to prevail on me to remain (upon a promise of being specially recommended to the king, as worthy of being immediately promoted to the rank of Ensign) I obtained in the following words:

" By the right hon. major lord Edward " Fitzgerald, commanding his Majesty's " 54th Regiment of Foot, whereof lieut. gen. Frederick is colonel. These are to certify, that the bearer hereof, Wil-LIAM COBBETT, Serjeant Major in the aforesaid regiment, has served honestly and faithfully for the space of eight years, nearly seven of which he has been a non-commissioned officer, and of that time he has been five years Serjeant Major to the regiment; but having very earnestly applied for his discharge, he, in consideration of his good behaviour, and the services he has rendered the regiment, is hereby discharged. -Given under my hand and the seal of " the regiment, at Portsmouth, this 19th " day of December, 1791.

EDWARD FITZGERALD."

"Portsmouth, 19th Dec. 1791.—Ser"jeant Major Cobbett having most press"ingly applied for his discharge, at ma"jor lord Edw. Fitzgerald's request, ge"neral Frederick has granted it. General
"Frederick has ordered major lord Edw.
"Fitzgerald to return the Serjeant Major
"thanks for his behaviour and conduct
"during the time of his being in the regi"ment, and major lord Edward adds
"his most hearty thanks to those of the
"General."

The object of my thus quitting the army, to which I was, perhaps, more attached than any man that ever lived in the world; was, to bring certain officers to justice for having, in various ways, wronged both the public and the soldier. With this object in view, I went strait to London, the moment I had obtained my liberty and secured my personal safety, which, as you will readily conceive, would not have been the case if I had not first got my discharge.—I must here go back a little, and give an account of the measures, which, while in the regiment, I had taken, preparatory to this prosecution; and, in order to give the reader a full view of all the circumstances; in order that he may be able to form a just opinion of what I was in the army, I will give

dis-

the

lajor

reral

lent.

pro-

nded

nme-

sign)

ward

stv's

lieut.

e are

WIL-

the

estly

ears,

en a

that

eant

ving

rge,

be-

der-

red.

lof

9th

er-

88.

rat

ict

ds

ne

him a short account of my progress. I enlisted at Chatham in 1784; I joined the regiment, in Nova Scotia, in 1785; I was almost immediately made a Corporal; in a few months afterwards I was made a Serjeant; and, at the end of about a year and a half, I was made the Serjeant Major. -- While I was a corporal I was made clerk to the regiment. In a very short time, the whole of the business, in that way, fell into my hands; and, at the end of about a year, neither adjutant, pay-master, or quarter-master, could move an inch without my assistance. The military part of the regiment's affairs fell under my care in like manner. About this time, the new discipline, as it was called; that is to say, the mode of handling the musket, and of marching, &c. called " Dundas's System," was sent out to us, in little books, which were to be studied by the officers of each regiment, and the rules of which were to be immediately conformed to .- Though any old woman might have written such a book; though it was excessively foolish, from beginning to end; still, it was to be complied with; it ordered and commanded a total change, and this change was to be completed before the next annual review took place. -To make this change was left to me, who was not then twenty years of age, while not a single officer in the regiment paid the least attention to the matter; so, that when the time came for the annual review, I, then a corporal, had to give lectures of instruction to the officers themselves, the colonel not excepted; and, for several of them, if not for all of them, I had to make out, upon large cards, which they bought for the purpose, little plans of the position of the regiment, together with lists of the words of command, which they had to give in the field. -ls it any wonder, that we experience defeats? There was I, at the review, upon the flank of the Grenadier Company, with my worsted shoulder-knot, and my great, high, coarse, hairy cap; confounded in the ranks amongst other men, while those who were commanding me to move my hands or my feet, thus or thus, were, in fact, uttering words, which I had taught them; and were, in every thing excepting mere authority, my inferiors; and ought to have been commanded by me.—It was impossible for reflections of this sort not to intrude themselves; and, as I advanced in experience, I felt less and less respect for those, whom I was compelled to obey. One suffers injustice from men, of great endow- went, and during a long winter, while the

ments of mind, with much less of heartburning than from men, whom one cannot help despising; and, if my officers had been men of manifest superiority of mind, I should, perhaps, not have so soon conceived the project of bringing them, or some of them, at least, to shame and punishment for the divers flagrant breaches of the law, committed by them, and for their manifold, their endless, wrongs against the soldiers and against the public.-This project was conceived so early as the year 1787, when an affair happened, that first gave me a full insight into regimental justice. It was shortly this: that the Quarter Master, who had the issuing of the men's provisions to them, kept about a fourth part of it to himself. This, the old serjeants told me, had been the case for many years; and, they were quite astonished and terrified at the idea of my complaining of it. This I did, however; but, the reception I met with convinced me, that I must never make another complaint, 'till I got safe to England, and safe out of the reach of that most curious of courts, a Court Martial. From this time forward, I began to collect materials for an exposure, upon my return to England. I had ample opportunities for this, being the keeper of all the books, of every sort, in the regiment, and knowing the whole of its affairs better than any other man. But, the winter previous to our return to England, I thought it necessary to make extracts from books, lest the books themselves should be destroyed. here begins the history of the famous Court Martial. In order to be able to prove that these extracts were correct, it was necessary that I should have a witness as to their being true copies. This was a very ticklish point. One foolish step here, would have sent me down to the ranks with a pair of bloody shoulders. Yet, it was necessary to have the witness. hesitated many months. At one time, I had given the thing up. I dreamt twenty times, I dare say, of my papers being discovered, and of my being tried and flogged half to death. At last, however, some fresh act of injustice towards us made me set all danger at defiance. I opened my project to a corporal, whose name was William Bestland, who wrote in the office under me, who was a very honest fellow, who was very much bound to me, for my goodness to him, and who was, with the sole exception of myself, the only sober man in the whole regiment. To work we

will

book

weig

out l

and

sentl

to th

that

brov

from

in th

Janu

for

bool

of th

the

ary,

to gr

cure

to a

rece

of th

he v

befo

he t

mei

say

" g

er CI

min

cun

put

sec

15t

me

and

the

in !

sor

tice

thi

less

me

the

me

the

pa

ma

M

20

wa

as,

the

the

ac

ve

rest were boozing and snoring, we gutted no small part of the regimental books, rolls, and other documents. Our way was this: to take a copy, sign it with our names, and clap the regimental seal to it, so that we might be able to swear to it, when produced in court. --- All these papers were put into a little box, which I myself had made for the purpose. When we came to Portsmouth, there was a talk of searching all the boxes, &c. which gave us great alarm; and induced us to take out all the papers, put them in a bag, and trust them to a custom-house officer, who conveyed them on shore, to his own house, whence I removed them in a few

days after. Thus prepared, I went to London, and, on the 14th of January, 1792, I wrote to the then Secretary at War, SIR GEORGE Yonge, stating my situation, my business with him, and my intentions; enclosing him a letter or petition, from myself to the king, stating the substance of all the complaints I had to make; and which letter I requested Sir George Yonge to lay before the king.——I waited from the 14th to the 24th of January, without receiving any answer at all, and then all I heard was, that he wished to see me at the war-office. At the war-office I was shown into an anti-chamber amongst numerous anxious-looking men, who, every time the door, which led to the great man, was opened, turned their eyes that way with a motion as regularized as uniform as if they had been drilled to it. These people eyed me from oligad to foot, and I never shall forget their look, when they saw, that I was admitted into Paradise without being detained a single minute in Purgatory .- Sir George Yonge heard my story; and that was apparently ali he wanted of me. I was to hear from him again in a day or two; and, after waiting for fitteen days, without hearing from him, or any one else, upon the subject, I wrote to him again, reminding him, that I had, from the first, told him, that I had no other business in London; that my stock of money was necessurily scanty; and, that to detain me in London was to ruin me. Indeed, I had, in the whole world, but about 200 guineas, which was a great deal for a person in my situation to have saved. Every week in London, especially as, by way of episode, I had now married, took, at least, a couple of guineas from my stock. I, therefore, began to be very impatient, and, indeed, to be very suspicious, that military justice in England was pretty nearly a-kin to

military justice in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, -- The letter I now wrote was dated on the 10th of February, to which I got an answer on the 15th, though the answer might have been written in a moment. I was, in this answer, informed, that it was the intention to try the accused upon only part of the charges, which I had preferred; and, from a new-modeled list of charges, sent me by the Judge Advocate, on the 23rd of February, it appeared, that, even of those charges that were suffered to remain, the parts the most material were omitted. But, this was not all. I had all along insisted, that, unless the Court-Martial were held in London, I could not think of appearing at it; because, if held in a garrisoned place like Portsmouth, the thing must be a mere mockery. In spite of this, however, the Judge Advocate's letter of the 23rd of February informed me, that the Court was to be held at Portsmouth, or Hilsea. I remonstrated against this, and demanded that my remonstrance should be laid before the king, which, on the 29th the Judge Advocate promised should be done by himself; but, on the 5th of March, the Judge Advocate informed me, that he had laid my remonstrance before whom, think you? Not the king, but the accused parties; who, of course, thought the court ought to assemble at Portsmouth or Hilsea, and, doubtless for the very very reasons that led me to object to its being held there.

Plainly seeing what was going forward, I, on the 7th of March, made, in a letter to Mr. Pitt, a representation of the whole case, giving him a history of the obstacles I had met with, which letter concluded thus: "I have now, Sir, done all a man " can do in such a case. I have proceeded " regularly, and I may add, respectfully, " from first to last: if I am allowed to " serve my country by prosecuting men, " who have injured it, I shall do it: if I " am thwarted and pressed down by those, " whose office it is to assist and support " me, I cannot do it: in either case, I " shall be satisfied with having done my " duty, and shall leave the world to make " a comparison between me and the men "whom I have accused." - This letter (which, by-the-by, the public robbers have not published) had the effect of changing the place of the Court-martial, which was now to be held in London; but, as to my other great ground of complaint, the leaving of the regimental books unsecured, it had no effect at all; and, it

te

to

gh

1 a

n-

he

ch

ed

d-

p-

at

386

11.

SS

I

2-

e

e

f

IS

d

will be recollected, that, without those books, there could be, as to most of the weighty charges; no proof produced, without bringing forward Corporal Bestland, and the danger of doing that will be presently seen. But, now, mark well as to these books; as to this great source of that sort of evidence, which was not to be brow-beaten, or stifled by the dangers of Mark well, these facts, and from them judge of what I had to expect in the way of justice. On the 22nd of January, I wrote to Sir George Yonge for the express purpose of having the books secured; that is to say, taken out of the hands, and put out of the reach, of the parties accused. On the 24th of January, he told me, that HE HAD taken care to give directions to have these documents secured. On the 18th of February, in answer to a letter, in which I (upon information received from the regiment) complained of the documents not having been secured. he wrote to me, and I have now the letter before me, signed with his own hand, that he would write to the Colonel of the regiment about the books, &c. " Aithough," says he, "I cannot doubt but that the re-"gimental books have been properly se-"cured." This was on the 18th of February, mind; and, now it appears, from the documents, which the public-robbers have put forth, that the first time any order for securing the books was given, was on the 15th of March, though the Secretary told me he had done it on the 24th of January, and repeated his assertion in writing, on the 18th of February. There is quite enough in this fact alone to shew the public what sort of a chance I stood of obtaining jus-

Without these written documents nothing of importance could be proved, unless the non-commissioned officers and men of the regiment should happen to get the better of their dread of the lash; and, even then, they could only speak from memory. All, therefore, depended upon those written documents, as to the principal charges. Therefore, as the Courtmartial was to assemble on the 24th of March, I went down to Portsmouth on the 20th, in order to know for certain what was become of the books; and, I found, as, indeed, I suspected was the case, that they had never been secured at all; that they had been left in the hands of the accused from the 14th of January to the very hour of trial; and that, in short, my request, as to this point, the positive condition as to this most important matter,

had been totally disregarded. There remained, then, nothing to rest upon with safety but our extracts, confirmed by the evidence of Bestland, the corporal, who had signed them along with me; and this I had solemnly engaged with him not to have recourse to, unless he was first out of the army; that is to say, out of the reach of the vindictive and bloody lash. was a very little fellow: not more than about five feet high; and had been set down to be discharged when he went to England; but, there was a suspicion of his connection with me, and, therefore, they resolved to keep him. It would have been cruel, and even perfidious, to have brought him forward under such circumstances; and, as there was no chance of doing any thing without him, I resolved not to appear at the Court-martial, unless the discharge of Bestland was first granted. Accordingly, on the 20th of March, I wrote, from Fratton, a village near Portsmouth, to the Judge Advocate, stating over again all the obstacles that had been thrown in my way, complaining particularly that the books and documents had been left in possession of the accused, contrary to my urgent request and to the positive assurances of the Secretary at War, and concluding by demanding the discharge of a man, whom I should name, as the only condition upon which I would attend the Court-martial. quested him to send me an answer by the next day, at night, at my former lodg-ing; and told him, that, unless such an-swer was received, he and these to whom my repeated applications had been made, might do what they pleased with their Court-martial; for, that I confidently trusted, that a few days would place me beyond the scope of their power. No answer came, and, as I had learned, in the meanwhile, that there was a design to prosecute me for sedition, that was an additional motive to be quick in my movements. As I was going down to Portsmouth, I met several of the serjeants coming up, together with the music-master; and, as they had none of them been in America, I wondered what they could be going to London for; but, upon my return, I was told by a Capt. Lane, who had been in the regiment, that they had been brought up to swear, that, at an entertainment given to them by me before my departure from the regiment, I had drunk " the destruction This was " of the House of Brunswick." false; but, I knew that that was no reason why it should not be eworn by such per-

909]

light.

name t

been

their

now, t

their

they t

pen is

deadl

on to

visible

publi

lated

broug

ties;

when

But,

such

have

Can

myse

cums

that

twen

ance

Can

pabl

was

as t

lieve

this

purp

sold

then

case

in]

nev

cuse

in 1

teen

but,

turr

pari

son

do

kne

cou

kne

was

COL

jor

lefi

wh

En

Co

Th

sons and in such a case. I had talked pretty freely, upon the occasion alluded to; but I had neither said, nor thought any thing against the king, and, as to the House of Brunswick, I hardly knew what it meant. My head was filled with the corruptions and the baseness in the army. knew nothing at all about politics. would any threat of this sort have induced me to get out of the way for a moment; though it certainly would, if I had known my danger; for glorious "Jacobinical" times were just then beginning. Of this, however, I knew nothing at all. I did not know what the Suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act meant. When you have a mind to do a thing, every trifle is an additional motive. Lane, who had enlisted me, and who had always shown great kindness towards me, told me they would send me to Botany Bay; and, I now verily believe, that, if I had remained, I should have furnished a pretty good example to those, who wished to correct military abuses. I did not, however, leave England from this motive. I could not obtain a chance of success, without exposing the back of my poor faithful friend Bestland, which, had I not pledged myself not to do, I would not have done. was useless to appear, unless I could have tolerable fair play; and, besides, it seemed better to leave the whole set to do as they pleased, than to be made a mortified witness of what it was quite evident they had rescived to do.

Such is the true history of this affair, which, had the public robbers given it as it stood, unmutilated, not a word should I ever have published by way of defence, or explanation. At the time when I was writing against PITT and MELVILLE, the Robbers then talked of exposing me with the account of this transaction, which I never wished, nor had any reason to wish, to keep a secret, and which I then called upon them to make known to the world. "There is," said I, "nothing that I should " like better, than your publishing the " whole of the documents relating to that " affair. You have not only my free " leave to do it; but my request to do it." They knew better. They knew, that, with whomsoever should read all those documents, I could not fail to rise in esteem; because they proved me to have been, in all times of my life, an enemy to public-robbers, whether on a great or a small scale.

Mark what these robbers have now to intelligent reader will easily the series are; and

I beg him to mark how they have acted in this instance.—Of TWENTY SEVEN Letters, written by me, these miscreants have published FIVE, and those of the least importance. My petition, in the form of a letter, to the King; my letter to Mr. Pitt, as long as one half of all the rest; my last letter to the Judge Advocate; all my letters to the Secretary at War; all the Charges, occupying the space of several pages: all these are suppressed, and with them, all the grounds and motives of my coming forward; all the remonstrances that I made against the discouragement I met with; all the conditions, upon which I pledged myself to prove guilt; and, finally, all the reasons which I gave for not appearing, when those conditions had been -This is the way, is it, that violated.these public-robbers make use of documents, which are committed to their hands? This is their "honourable" conduct, is it? And these are the publications, are they, that the Clergy at Winchester circulate gratis? --- When I first saw the Affair of the Court-Martial advertised, I was at the house of a friend, and upon his showing me the advertisement, I said, " now, if the rascals do but publish all my "letters, what honour they will do me!" They took care not to do that. dared not do that: the facts and the sentiments therein contained would be found to cut too close: and, besides, those letters, if all published complete, would do me so much honour: the reader of them would, at every sentence, exclaim: "here were the same mind and " the same principles, that we find in him '__There are not, " at the present day." I am fully persuaded, in any country, such mean and dirty wretches as our public robbers. Buonaparté has nothing in his dominions that is not manly and dignified, people, who would lend a man a sly blow in the dark, if they found him too hard for them with his pen; but, I do not think, that there is, in all Europe, not even amongst the Sicilians or Portuguese, a set of creatures so mean and despicable in their spite as our public-robbers; a set of "tame cheaters;" the poison of asps is under their lips, but they want the courage One would wonder even of a worm.where they would find the assurance to face me, or to face the public, after having suppressed these twenty two letters. Why, the truth is, they dare not face me, or any body else. They dare look no part of the public in the face. They skulk from the

ed in

VEN

ants

the

the

etter

I the

cate:

; all

veral

with

my

ances

ent I

ich I

t ap-

been

that

ocu-

heir

con-

ons,

ster

the

I, I

his

ud,

ny

he

be

er

ally, .

light. Not a man of them dares put his name to the publication, upon which I have been remarking. They are conscious of their villainous deeds: they feel, even now, the dread of that punishment, which their manifold robberies so richly merit: they feel that they are not safe while my pen is in action. This inspires them with deadly hatred; and that hatred urges them on to that mixture of malignity and folly visible in this their last production.

The object of the Pamphlet, which the public-robber's have so industriously circulated, is to cause it to be believed, that I brought a false accusation against the parties; that I knew it to be faise, and that, when the hour of trial came, I skulked away. But, what sense would there have been in such a proceeding? What motive could I have had for doing a thing so very silly? Can it be believed, that I would have put myself to the expence of a two or three months living in London, when my circumstances so loudly called me away, and that I would have taken the pains to write twenty seven letters, and to dance attendance as many times at the Horse Guards? Can it be believed, that I, who was capable of writing these letters, and who was so well acquainted with the law as well as the facts of the case? Can it be believed, that I should have put myself to all this trouble and expence, merely for the purpose of bringing a parcel of officers and soldiers to London and making fools of them? Besides, if this had been the case, how comes it, that I have remained in England now, for nine years, and have never been called upon by any of the accused parties to unsay, what I said of them in 1792. True, it is now so long as seventeen years since the charges were preferred; but, it was only eight years, when I returned to England. If, therefore, either the parties or the government had had any reason to complain of me, why did they not do it immediately upon my return? They knew very well where I was. They could not help knowing it. Nay, they knew where I was and all about me while I was in America, where I published an account of my having been the Serjeant Major of the 54th regiment, and of my having left it in such a year. The pamphlet, in which this was stated, was published in England, in 1796, only four years after the Court-Martial was held; it was published, too, at the express desire of Mr. Canning, who was then an under Secretary of State in Pitt's ministry. This being the case, would not the parties, if they had really

felt themselves wronged by me; if they had really wished to be confronted with me; would not they, even while I was in America, have found the means of charging me with having made a false accusation against them? Would they, under such circumstances, have suffered me to rest in quiet. And, the government too, who, in the Case drawn up for the opinion of the Attorney and Solicitor General, said I had deceived the crown; the government, who appeared to be so angry at me for having made a "mockery of justice;" how came the government not to call upon me, when, nine years ago, I returned to England? They all talked very big when they found me safe gone; but, none of them thought proper to challenge me to the proof when I came back. The history of the transaction, drawn up to be laid before the then Attorney and Solicitor General, was false. It kept out of sight the circumstance of three fourths of my Charges having been suppressed, and the still more important circumstance of the regimental looks and papers not having been secured, according to my desire, so often and so earnestly expressed. If these facts had been related to sir John Scott and sir John Mitford; if they had had all my twenty seven letters before them, their opinion would have been very different from what it was. They would, indeed, have seen, that it was those, who had thrown obstacles in my way, who had been guilty of "deceiving the crown and making a " mockery of justice." But, at any rate, if the parties had really thought they had grounds of actions against me, how came they not to bring those actions, when I returned to England, nine years ago; especially as it would have afforded them so charming an opportunity of vindicating their own character, and fixing an everlasting stigma upon that of their accuser, whom they must necessarily hate, and of course, wish to expose and to punish? How came they not to bring those actions? How came both they and the government to remain so quiet?-The fact is, they all knew my charges to be true; they were all glad that the matter was got over so quietly; they had not the smallest desire to stir the coals again; and, it is that state of desperation, in which the public robbers now are, that has induced them to resort to this old transaction, in the hope of framing a charge against me, which, owing to the long lapse of time, I should find it difficult completely to refute. These robbers, particularly those of

- 1 - 0 - 1

Com

a pa

stati

&cc.

our

som

but,

and

kin

gav

me

thir

50 (

shi

bee

wa

tho

aw

wa

In

hat

as

pe

ral

my

3111

an

tin

ar

VI

co

I

th

ric

111

mi

W

Cf

th

in

le

a

th

01

d

I

ti

11.

9

O

t

1

t

1

(t

1

them who curse the county of Hants with their presence or interference, endeavour to represent me as a low person; a person of no consequence; a person by whom the county ought to be ashamed to be led. In the first place, I have not the presumption to wish to lead the county, though I have a very strong desire to assist in asserting its honour and independence; to assist in rescuing its property from the fangs of public-robbers, and its people from the into erable disgrace of being the tools of a set of tax-gatherers and political priests .- In the next place, as to being a low person, I never, in point of birth, pretend to be a high one; I never put on any airs; I never attempt to dictate at any public-meeting; I never shan any man on account of his poverty, or low rank in life; I am not a seeker after the nobility and those who call themselves great men. Therefore, any reproach of this sort does not apply to me. --- But, as to being low in point of character, or in point of weight as a public man, I am persuaded, that there are very few persons, who will not laugh at the idea, especially when endeavoured to be inculcated by those very robbers, whom, it is notorious, I make tremble for their cheese, and who are more afraid of me than ever rat was afraid of a terrier.— I am, and always have been, for paying respect to rank and title, even to mere birth, unaccompanied with any other consideration; because, such distinction in society appears to me to be productive of many good effects, which I need not now dwell upon. But, I thick, there can be no question, that great endowments of the mind, without any of the circumstances of title or family, must, if properly used, be considered as giving the possessor an elevated Why are Clergymen, place in society. Medical men, and Lawyers, considered as gentlemen? Not because they are persons of high birth; for many of them, and especially the Clergy, are bred at charity schools; but, because their profession argues them to possess considerable mental endowments. In short, as it is mind alone which raises man above the brutes and gives him the command of them; so it is superiority of mind that raises one man above another, and gives him, in one way or another, more or less of commend over - Therefore, when the Poulters and the parson Woodcocks and the Mr. Portals cry out, "what a shame it is for " the County to be led by Cobbett," the county has only to ask, whether I appear to have more or less mind than the Poul-

ters and the parson Woodcocks and the Mr. Portals. That is the only question: not whether I have more or less of land, but whether I have more or less of mind; and then, whether I have more or less of truth on my side, than they have on theirs. These are the questions for the county to ask; and, if it were disposed to put one more question, it might be this: which has most merit; which has shewn the greatest capacity; which is, on account of his acquirements, whether of mind or of property, entitled to the greatest respect, Mr. Poulter, who owes all he possesses to the luck of having a Bishop for a brother-in-law; or, Mr. Cobbett, who owes all he possesses to his own talents and

industry? But, Gentlemen, this attempt to represent me as a low and insignificant person, besides the folly of it, is an instance of hypocrisy well worthy of notice. There is scarcely a man amongst those who now appear to be united together for the purpose of decrying me, who has not, upon some occasion or other, paid his court to me, sought my acquaintance, asked of me something or other, either for himself or for some relation or friend. I was told, a few weeks ago, that DENT, a member of parliament, should say, that he wondered the gentlemen in Hampshire did not put me Why, this DENT is one of the scores of such men, whom I have shut my door against. He wanted to introduce himself to me, while I lived in Dake Street, Westminster, which I absolutely would not permit him to do. He called several times, and sent me up very respectful messages, 'till, at last, the servant had orders to tell him, that I would not see him. I did not like DENT, and I would not be acquainted with him. I have mentioned him in particular here, because I recollect, that Mr. Windham was in my study one of the times when he sent up his card; and yet this man has now the assurance to talk of me as a low person, who ought to have nothing to say in a county !- I do not like to say so much of myself; but, to do it this once appears due to the cause, if not to myself. And, I think, I may venture to say, that the lives of very few men have been marked with stronger proofs of merit of every sort. In my regiment I was every thing: the whole corps was under my controul: I rendered services, not only in the regiment, but in the provinces where we were stationed, such as no one but myself would have thought of. I remember a set of

d the

stion:

land,

mind;

ess of

heirs.

ity to

it one

which

n the

count

nd or

res-

pos-

p for

who

sand

epre-

rson,

ce of

re is

now

pur-

pon

rt to

me

for

d, a

r of

ered

t me

the

mv

uce

et.

uld

ral

ful

-10

m.

iot

211-

ise

111

he

25

w

Commissioners being sent out from England, a part of whose business it was to make a statement and report of the population, &c. &c. of the province. They lived about our quarters for some time; they had some jovial carousings with our officers; but, it was I who made out their statement, and drew up their report to be sent home to the king; for which, by the bye, they never gave me even their thanks. This statement, which, as was the case with every thing that I meddled with, was done in so clear, correct, and, in point of penmanship, so beautiful a manner, that, I have been told, the duke of Kent, when he afterwards became Commander-in-Chief in those provinces, had it copied; and took away the original as a curiosity. was the way in which I did every thing. I was, of course, very much envied and hated by the weak and the wicked, and, as was natural to expect, I did not, amongst people, whom, though my superiors in rank, I could not help despising, bear myself with much moderation. From nineteen to twenty-seven is not much of an age for moderation, especially with those, who must necessarily despise all around them. But, the fame of my services and talents ran through the whole country. Every good man respected me. I was invited to visit people in all parts of the provinces. While we lay at Fredericton in New Brunswick, I had the settling, or rather the preventing, of eight or nine law-suits. I had the affairs of a whole regiment to attend to; all its accounts, its parades, its guards, its every thing. I found, however, time for studying English and French grammar; I learnt geometry and fortification; I built a barrack for four hundred men, without the aid of either draughtsman, carpenter, or bricklayer, the soldiers under me cut down the timber and dug the stones, and I was the architect; I went through a tract of woods, of above a hundred miles, where no man had ever ventured before to go alone; and this I did for the purpose of putting a stop to desertion, by showing the regiment that I myself was able to follow the fugitives, and, accordingly, after that we had no more desertion to the United States. With all these occupations. (or which I mention only a few particulars that occur to me at the moment) I found time for skaiting, fishing, shooting, and all the other sports of the country, of which, when I left it, I had seen, and knew, more than any other man. There is some little difference, I think, between

such a man as I and such a man as Mr. Poulter! I might, surely, say to him as Voltaire said to the monk: "Yes, yes, "no doubt, you are a man, as well as I; "but, my friend, there are two sorts of "men."—Why, I always had weight and power. Wherever I was, I was a leader, and, would it not be a base abandonment of the claims which nature and habit have given me, to pretend that I am nothing more than such a man, for instance, as parson Woodcock, whose mental endowments are discovered in his turning off those of his tradesmen, who signed the Requisition for a county meeting to thank Mr. Wardle!

ing to thank Mr. Wardle! I cannot help again reverting to this newly-thought-of scheme of representing me as a low and insignificant person .-- As a proof of the estimation, in which I was held, while in the army, I will mention, that, about four years ago, General Carleton, brother of the late Lord Dorchester, and now Lord Dorchester himself I believe, came to my house to see me, and to remind me, that he had the pleasure of knowing me in New Brunswick. He was Governor of the province of New Brunswick, while my regiment was stationed there. He was our reviewing General, and he knew me, my character and services, well. He had, however, never known me in any other capacity than that of Serjeant Major; and Generals are not much in the habit of going to see Serjeants Major, unless there be something very particular about them: This gentleman had been governor, upon the very spot where I was with my regiment for four years; and, his visit to me, in England, was, it will be observed, after my return from America the last time, after the affair of the Court Martial of course; and of that affair he must have been well acquainted with all the circumstances, seeing that his own name, as a reviewing general, who had been imposed upon by a false return, was mentioned in one of the charges. His visit to me was a pretty good proof, that he had perceived nothing dishonourable in my conduct. -But, this is, altogether the fool shest charge that even the robbers ever invented. Why, on my return from America, having stopped at Halifax in Nova Scotia, the Duke of Kent, who requested to see me, talked to me about my regiment and about all its affairs. He must have known all about the Court-Martial. Mr. Windham and Mr. Yorke have been, since my return, and the former was before, Score-

qu

self

ton

in !

abo

and

tho

ref

the

not

rep

Son

fac

aut

cal

Mo

abi

the

tio

kin

the

Mr

tho

tim

wh

any

duc

as

wh

abl

dis

pla

Wit

the

feri

can

mo

ma

the

lau

and

fro

for

it 1

tha

me,

gua

has

my

for

hy

tha

for

of

wa

tho

be

rev

taries at War; they had the whole history in their office; and yet nobody in the country has ever spoken, and, I believe, thought, better of me, than Mr. Windham and Mr. Yorke have. I remember, that in dining with Mr. PITT, at Mr. Windham's in August 1800, the former asked me about Lord Edward Fitzgerald. We talked about him a good deal. I gave the company present (of which Mr. Canning was one) an account of his conduct, while at the regiment; I spoke in very high terms of his zeal for the service, and I told Mr. Pitt, that Lord Edward was the only sober and the only honest officer, I had ever known in the army. I did this for the express purpose of leading him on to talk about the Court-Martial; but, it was avoided. In fact, they all well knew that what I had complained of was true, and that I had been baffled in my attempts to obtain justice, only because I had neither money nor friends. The same is known to those, who now are publishing and circulating this false account of that transaction; but, what they have in view, is not truth; it is, in short, to preserve their plunder, which they think is in imminent danger, unless they can destroy my credit with the public.

They naturally hate me. They have abundant reason so to do; but, of late, their hatred must have received fresh supplies. Many of the gentlemen connected with the press have dealt the robbers some deadly blows; but, from the nature of my publication; from my being able to devote the whole of my pages to the thing, I have certainly hit them harder than any body else, and the measure of their hatred is accordingly. It is true, that one would imagine, that nobody could be so foolish as not to see, that, when detected in such shameful garbling as to suppress 22 out of 27 documents, and especially to suppress every document, upon which the real merits of the case turned; one would imagine, that even the Poulters would have been able to tell the compilers, that a publication like this must defeat its own purpose, and that, in the end, in place of injuring me, it must do me a great deal of good. But, the truth is, that in such circumstances, men's minds are shut against all reasoning. Detected in their robberies, they jump from the roof. They break their necks on the pavement, in order to save them from the halter.

The purpose, at present, of all the public-robbers, of every description, is to pre- Dr. RENNELL, and other learned and ele-

vent the success of our endeavours to bring about a Reform in the House of Commons: for, unless they can effect that; unless they can prevent such a Reform from taking place, they must experience such a change as will compel them to earn their livings honestly, or live upon their own means; and, this is what they appear resolved not to do, if they can avoid it. Mr. Wardle has pledged himself to prove, that a Reform in the House of Commons would render the Income Tax unnecessary; and, I, who have considered every part of the subject with great attention, and who am acquainted with every branch of revenue as well as of expenditure, am not only convinced, that this saving could and would be made; but, that a much greater saving would be made, and without any injury whatever to any part of the public service, while it must be manifest, that such saving would prevent, in a considerable degree, the further depreciation in the value of funded property. All this the whole gang of public-robbers deny; flatly deny. Here, then, is a great question to be decided; and, as I have taken a leading part in the discussion, the robbers, as to a desperate remedy, have been driven to personal attacks upon me. For the sake of the cause, therefore, it became necessary for me to show how base, how detestable, are the conduct and the evident motives of our enemies. Those who publish these things against me, know well how false they are; but, it is when they affect to consider me as a low and insignificant person; it is then that they are the greatest hypocrites. I could mention, if I were to take a day or two to consider, a thousand instances, in which persons, who are enemies to Parliamentary Reform, and who are considered as great men, have availed themselves, or endeavoured to avail themselves of my support. But, there is one instance, which now occurs to me, and which, under the present circumstances, I cannot refrain from stating. Each of you, Gentlemen, will probably recollect, that, much about this time of the year, six years ago; that is to say, in the summer of 1803, at a time when there was a general fear of invasion, a publication was issued by the government, was sent to all the parishes, was distributed in the churches, and was read from the several pulpits. This paper was entitled: " IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS " FOR THE PEOPLE OF THIS KINGDOM :" It was, in the news-papers, attributed to LORD HAWKESBURY; afterwards to Dr. Horsler,

ing

ons;

less.

rom

ch a

their

ans;

not

rdle

Re-

ren-

who

ject

ac-

e as

con-

bind

ing

ury

ice,

ing

ree,

e of

ang

ny.

de-

ing

o a

to

ke

ry

le,

res

ese

to

1-

est

10

nd

quent men; but, the real author of it was myself. I wrote it; offered it to Mr. Addington, through Mr. Yorke; he accepted of it, in which he showed his sense of duty to be above party pique; and, it was published and distributed at the expence of several thousands of pounds. Now, though the Reverend Messrs. Poulter and Woodcock may be ready to bite their tongues upon reflecting, that they once read, even from the pulpit, a production of mine, that will not do away the fact.--They would fain represent me as a low and insignificant person; but, let them efface, if they can, the fact, that a production of mine, when its author was unknown, was, by the periodical publications of the day; aye, by that Morning Post and that Courier, which now abuse me, ascribed to Dr. Horsley first, and then to Dr. Rennell; and, that this publication was sent to every parish throughout the kingdom, under government authority and at the public expence. When Mr. Poulter or Mr. Woodcock or Mr. Portal, or any of those, who attempt to lower me in the estimation of the people of this county; when any of them shall have produced any thing to be so honoured as this production of mine, and shall have refused, as I did, to take any compensation for it; when they shall have given such irrefragable proofs of ability, public-spirit, and disinterestedness, then let them pretend to place themselves upon an equal footing with me; but not before; 'till then, let them keep their due, that is to say, an inferior place. In every way in which we can be compared, except as to mere money, I am their superior; and that, you may be assured, Gentlemen, I will not, if they persevere in their opposition to our laudable undertaking, and if I have my life and health, fail to make them feel .have, in spite of all provocation, abstained from stating this anecdote to the public, for six years; nor should I have mentioned it now on my own account; but, seeing that the cause is to be attacked through me, it is necessary for me to take care to guard the channel. The cause of Reform has been, and studiously is, identified with my reputation; therefore, it is necessary for me to shew that those are the vilest of hypocrites and calumniators, who attack The King, I was well inthat reputation. formed; expressed the highest approbation of the work I have been speaking of. He was not, I dare say, told who was the author, nor was it necessary that he should be; for I wanted nothing of him by way of reward, no not even a "shank you." But,

I must confess, that, now I do think, the King owes me something; and thus, I humbly conceive, he ought to pay me : He ought, I think, to order his ministers to cause this Letter to be circulated, in the same way that the little Pamphlet was; or, which I should prefer, to order them to circulate, in that manner, my next Letter upon the subject of Parliamentary Re-The little Pamphlet did, I verily believe, produce more effect, in this country, than had been produced by all other publications put together for years before. There are about eleven thousand Clergymen in England and Wales, and my real belief is, that all of them together, in the whole of the preceding eleven years, had not, whether by writing or preaching, moved the people so much as I moved them in one single week. I trust, therefore, that His Majesty will be pleased to give his sanction to the circulating of one of my Letters. I should, I think, prefer the next Letter upon Parliamentary Reform. I will certainly make the application, in a proper way; and, if the King follows his own opinion, he will, I am certain, grant my request.

I have now, Gentlemen, to apologize for the length of this Letter. I could not curtail it, without leaving out something material; and yet, I am aware, that it may be thought more, than any man, under any circumstances, ought to say of himself. Had it not been for the public cause, not a word should any of these vile attacks have drawn from me. What I have done seemed to be due to my friends, private as well as political; because, those who would be silent to my face, would not scruple to taunt them. I must, however, express my earnest hope, that no friend of mine will, in future, expect of me, that I waste any part of my time or paper in the answering of personal attacks. At any rate, I am resolved not to do it; unless by barely stating, in a short sentence, that such or such a thing is true, or is false. There will be thousands of lies against me; but that is what I have to expect; and, really, the good opinion is worth but little of that man, who can lend an ear to the assertions of wretches, who, in pretending to give a true history of a transaction, could suppress twentytwo documents out of twenty-seven, and insert only such as tended to throw no light at all upon the merits of the case. After this instance of falshood, baseness, meanness, and dirtiness, on the part of my assailants, no one can think it necessary

for me to answer any of their future attacks, except by a mere affirmation or negation; such, therefore, is all the answer, they shall, in future, receive.

I am, Gentlemen, Your friend, WM. COBBETT

Botley, 14 June, 1809.

PARLIAMENTARY REFORM.

On Thursday, the 15th instant, Sin FRANCIS BURDETT made, in the House of Commons, a Speech, upon the important subject of Parliamentary Reform .-This Speech, which I have taken care to have as full and correct as possible, I shall in my next communicate to the public, and for that purpose shall make it a double sheet, instead of the one that would, in the usual course, appear on the 15th of July.-Here we have what Sir Francis Burdett wishes for, and what he does not wish for. He has long been taunted with not knowing what he wanted; but that taunt will now, surely, cease to be used. We shall now hear what his opponents have to say against his propositions; though, I imagine, they will be found to have little to say, except in the way of abuse .- For my part, I think the thing so completely correspondent with the principles of the Constitution of England; so strictly in adherence with the spirit of Magna Charta, the Bill of Rights, and the Act of Settlement; so simple in its provisions; so easy in its execution; and yet so mighty in its means of real Reformation, that I can scarcely bring myself to believe, that there is one man in the whole kingdom, who, in his heart, can disapprove of it. --- Where are now all the predictions about the " wild projects; the enthusiastic schemes." Here is nothing to terrify any body; but

enough to quiet every body. Pass a bill to this effect, and you need not fear Buonaparté's gun-boats.

SUMMARY OF POLITICS.

Austria. - The "good news," as it is called, from the Danube, will, I am of opinion, be of very short duration. We do pretty well in the gazette-making way, but the Austrians beat us. I think, it is very evident, that, owing to the unforeseen destruction of a bridge across the Danube, the French were checked in their career of victory; but, I can perceive not the smallest reason to suppose, that their career will be long checked, especially when I see them still in possession of Vienna, and of every inch of ground they had gained, and see two fresh armies coming up to back and assist them. One thing, however, our allies will have atchieved to a certainty; and that is, the extracting of a good lumping sum of money out of the pockets of the people of this kingdom. The "brilliant victory of the Archduke Charles:" this phrase, bandied about as it is, will, like the taylor's compliments to the Bourgeois Gentilhomme, induce John Bull to draw his leathers, and that is precisely what the German wants The drawing upon us for money, the moment he drew the sword; that was a pretty good proof of what we had to expect from the war. Be it what else it would, it was evident that it was to be a war upon our purses. The insurrection, under Schill, in Germany, has, it seems been quelled by an army of Dutch, who, odd as it may appear, are both able and willing to fight under a Buonaparté, though they would not lift a sword, even in their own defence, -There is an under their Stadtholder .idea, that, in the North of Germany, there is a spirit of insurrection against the old system as well as against Buonaparté. I was told of this some time ago; and, I see that the fact is much dwelt upon in a letter published in the Morning Chronicle of the 12th instant. The fact may be true; but, I am afraid no such insurrection could succeed at present; and, I beseech the writer of the letter alluded to, not to rely upon any assistance, in favour of such an enterprize, from the English government, as he appears to do. He says, we assist Spain; no, not Spain, but, as Messrs. Inguis, Canning, and Co. inform us from their tavern forum, we assist, or would assist, Ferdinand the Seventh. No:

this Go suppose will gi the procorrupt will g purpose fore. u parté i he will

to kee

the lo

surrect

9217

which thing, deepe appea its ""glory while tearin of rep suspec

tion,

is not

lamer cypre his grashes call his gentle other even and r

make ings of her we neces these that that that

little

coun

Franc

sons that as lac Gern in ve fatal

and

what

the () the I Sw den, His

His promised the formal leading the contract of the contract o

[920

a bill

Buo-

s it is

am of

way,

, 11 15

nfore-

s the

their

re not

their

cially

on of

they

com-

One

e at-

s, the

noney

rdom.

duke

ut as

ts to

John

pre-

raw-

it he

good

the

was

our

ILL,

lled

nav

ght

uld

ce,

an

ere

old

, I

a

e

be

We

this German is very much deceived, if he supposes, that Messrs. Perceval and Co. will give a single musket, or cartridge, for the purpose of making war against that corruption, of which he complains. They will give away our money for no such purpose, he may be assured; and, therefore. unless he finds the system of Buonaparte more oppressive than the old system, he will do well to advise his countrymen to keep quiet .- It is curious to observe the lofty encomiums passed upon this insurrection, by those of our public prints, which, in general, seem to view every thing, tending to insurrection, with the deepest horror. This German insurrection appears to hit their taste. They say, that its "career has been short, but full of "glory;" and these sentiments they utter, while they are in the constant habit of tearing open the old sores in Ireland, and of representing all those, who were there suspected of a design to cause an insurrection, as the blackest of villains. Nay, it is not a week since the very paper, which laments the fall of Schill, and hangs the cypress, interwoven with the laurel, over his grave, took occasion to rake up the ashes of Lord Edward Fitzgerald, and to call him conspirator and traitor. - These gentlemen seem to like insurrections in other countries well enough. They would even assist the insurgents with arms and money; but, if they were to hear of France doing such a thing, they would make the firmament ring with the howlings of their horror. They would charge her with perfidy unheard of, and would, if necessary, take their oaths, that it was to these perfidious arts, and not to her valour, that she owed her successes .--I think, that the best way is for us to say but very little in favour of insurrections in other countries, lest it should induce some persons to make a mistake, and to suppose, that insurrections are just as lawful and as laudable in this country as they are in Germany; which mistake, though founded in very plausible reasoning, might prove fatal to those who should be so misled, and who, to their cost, would find, that what the hireling writers call patriotism in the Germans, they would call treason in the English or the Irish.

Sweden.—Our ally, the king of Sweden, has, it seems, abdicated his throne. His proclamation to this effect is a performance replete with just sentiments, and leading to a very natural and useful conclusion. He declares, that he can no longer fill the throne to the advantage and

honour of the nation, and that, therefore, he quits it, for the purpose of passing the remainder of his days, in the fear and worship of God, wishing that all his subjects may, in future, enjoy more happiness and prosperity than they enjoyed under him. -Faith, a very sensible man! And a Yet, now, if any one had just man too. told him this, only a few months before, how quickly he would have been packed off to the gibbet! How many ugly names, such as conspirator, traitor, &c. he would have been called .- Here, this king himself confesses that he was unfit to reign: Napoleon had told us so before, and prettily we abused him for it. But, now the man declares, under his own hand and seal (unless our government papers have published a forgery), that what Napoleon said of him was true. --- As to the effect, which this event will have, with respect to this country, it is pretty evident, I think, that Sweden will, in one way or other, become, if not absolutely an appendage of France, yet so much under her controul as no longer to be able to act contrary to her wish. Whatever of maritime means, therefore, Sweden possesses, will, in all human probability, be brought to bear against us. In this, however, I, for my part, see no danger, if all were well at home; if our system of finance and of military defence were what they ought to be, and what they might so easily be made, we might laugh at Napoleon and all his hundreds of allies. But, if we continue on in our present course; if we are to have new taxes every year besides an addition to the old ones, does any man believe, that we shall be able, in the end, to resist all the means of the continent brought to bear against us? France becomes every day stronger and stronger; she falls, day afterday, into the possession of new means she has no public debt; she has few and light taxes; she has no tax that is inquisitorial; and, what is as much as all the rest, she has no paper money, none of that sham representative of property, which, the moment public danger shews its face, becomes much less valuable than it was while it bore the name of rags, and a whole cart-load of which would not procure the holder the means of breaking his

MR. WARDLE'S PLEDGE.—I shall, hereafter, have to remark upon the last debate upon Mr. Curwen's reform bill, which contained some very curious matter, and which ended in the passing of a bill, not only not the same that was introduced by

Mr. Curwen, not only not like it, but, as to the evident tendency of it, exactly the opposite of what was intended by Mr. Curwen, who did, it seems, nevertheless, vote for it. This bill, this measure of reform, which was zealously supported by Mr. Perceval, H. Wellesley, and Lord Castlereagh, will require a full exposure, hereafter. At present, as far as relates to the debate in question, I shall confine myself to a emark of two upon what was said by MR WINDHAM about "the haranguers, who " duped the people by telling them, that " eleven millions could be saved, in the " annual expenditure of the nation." Does he think, that any thing can be saved? I will not now enter upon the question of saving; but, I cannot heip reminding the reader, that, in the year 1804, Admiral Markham told the House of Commons, that, with proper economy, one third of the whole of the expences of the Navy might be saved. Now, here is pretty nearly one half of the eleven millions; and yet I beg the reader to observe, that Mr. Windham never called Admiral Markham an haranguer, never accused him of duping the people. Why, the private bills, passed in the parliament, cost, I should suppose, the better part of half a million of pounds sterling every year. speak at a rough guess. I may be over the mark. But, surely, be it what it may, the money might be saved to the people; for, though it comes not in the shape of tax, it is the people who pay the money. -Mr. Wardle does not merit the contemptuous appellation of haranguer. has proved to the nation, that he deals in matter of fact. He has never yet promised more than he was able to perform, and has performed. The people firmly believe, that he is able to make good his promise, respecting the reduction of the national expenditure; and, there is no extinguishing this belief by calling him names, I have, for years, believed, and have often expressed that belief, that, except what are necessary to pay the interest upon the public debt, one half of the taxes might be taken off, without the smallest injury to the public service, whether civil, naval, or military. Why, the expence of collecting the taxes; the bare expence of keeping the tax gatherers: this alone costs more than five millions a year; that is to say, it is pay for 125,000 able bodied men at 40l. a year, or half a crown a day, each. Here is an army. Here are more people than we have in the navy. Here is about as much money as all the

poor-rates of England and Wales amount to annually. Why, it is half a guinea a soul, annually, for all the souls in Great Britain. Can this be necessary? Is it possible, Mr. Windham, to save none of this; no part of this most dreadful ex-pence? The number of men, whom this money would support at 40l. a year each, is, I believe, twice as great as the whole num-ber of persons, in all the kingdom, who are, at present, entitled to vote for members of parliament. Is not this a very curious representative system? Did our forefathers mean this, when, in Magna Charta, they declared it to be the ancient and unalterable law of England, that no man should be taxed without his consent? And, are we to be called haranguers, who dupe the people, because we think, that, besides the immediate expence, it is a great national evil, that every sixteenth able man, at least, should be a tax-gatherer, or employed about the taxes in one way or another? These are not the reflections of empty-headed " haranguers," Mr. Windham; nor of enthusiastic reformists. They arise from an attentive inquiry into the state of the nation, and they are communicated to the public with the serious and settled design of causing, in time, the evils complained ofto be removed. Those are "haranguers," who make speeches by the hour, not only with the certain knowledge, that such speeches will lead to no practical result, but with a desire that they should lead to no such re-Those are "haranguers," who have regular pitched debates, merely for the sake of debating; who, during their debating, affect furious anger against one another, and who, when the combat is over, march away hugging one another by the arm. These are the "haranguers; these are the men who dupe the people; or, rather, who used to dupe them; for this sort of political fraud can no longer be practised with success, for which change the public are principally indebted to Mr. Wardle.

AMERICAN STATES.—Concerning Ma. Erskine's conduct, which has produced such confusion and uncertainty in the commercial relationships between this country and America, much will remain to be said hereafter. It is even now, however, quite clear, that if what has been published as such, be a correct copy of his instructions, he has acted in direct contradiction to them; and that he ought to be called upon to pay for all the loss which merchants and others shall experience in consequence of his having so done, and

which The watch disobe I me Then

925]

salary
the che ma
yet to
time,
dors t
And,
that

plenij

those about time, the r States Chronus, of

matte and commont contr about

alarn half-y " ven " du

" Erse effe

" has " int " tar

" the

" for of " ne " the

" or

" va

" its " da " Se

" ar

ce Li

ount

ca a

reat

Is it

ne of

ex-

this

each,

num-

re, at

arlia.

resen-

mean

clar-

e law

taxed

o be

ople,

me-

evil.

ould

the

are

ha-

2132-

at-

ion,

blic

us-

be

ho

ith

nes

re-

Ve

he

which loss is apparently to fall upon us. The progress of this affair should be watched. We should observe what this disobedience of instructions will cost us; I mean in money; money paid down. Then, we are told, that we have another plenipotentiary appointed thither, whose salary and allowances, are, of course, in the old way, going on, though, perhaps, he may not set off for nine or ten months yet to come. So that, we have, at this time, for the United States, two Embassadors upon full pay and one upon half pay. And, yet, Mr. Windham seems to think, that nothing can be saved; and that those are merely haranguers, who talk about savings .--But, what I at this time, particularly wish to point out to the reader, as connected with the United States is, the view which the Morning Chronicle now takes of the effect, upon us, of a suspension of commercial intercourse with that country .--This is a matter of very great national importance, and one as to which I feel more than common interest, having been so positively contradicted, and not a little abused, when about two years ago I combatted the alarms of the Morning Chronicle and its half-yankee correspondents. --- "Above se-" venty vessels, laden with American pro-" duce, have arrived in our ports in consequence of the arrangement made by Mr. "Erskine. We do not know as yet the full " effect of this influx, but it cannot fail most " materially to reduce the price of every American article. One thing, however, " has been made obvious by the cessation of " intercourse, and which it is most impor-" tant for the Legislature to consider; and that is the improved state of our own produce " of corn. We have been for two years " thrown entirely upon the British farmer " for subsistence. We have had no import " of wheat or flour, either from the Conti-" nents of Europe or America; and yet "there has been a sufficient supply in our " markets, and the prices have not become ex-" orbitant. It has been demonstrated, not " only that we grow enough for our own " consumption, but that from the rapid ad-" vances made in agriculture, if not now "checked by impolitic discouragements, " the soil would produce food for double " its population, in seven years from this "date. We hope that early in the next " Session of Parliament, this most import-" ant subject will receive a deliberate dis-" cussion, and that the system of the Corn " Laws will be revised. Fears were enterso tained that our West India Islands would

"have been destitute of provisions, on " account of the severe regulations of com-" mercial policy by the American Republic, " persevered in to the close of the Presi-" dency of Mr. Jefferson. The result has " not justified these apprehensions. A letter " received at New York, from Kingston, in "Jamaica, states, that the market is glutted " with flour, that Irish provisions have been " supplied in abundance, and that it was " likely, as soon as the House of Assembly " should meet, that a duty would be impo-" sed upon American produce." --MR. PERRY, this is not candid. " Fears " were entertained?" Aye, faith, were they, and pretty strongly expressed, too, by you and your much-praised correspondent A. B.—You should now have said fairly: "We did entertain and express our fears " upon this subject, to do which we were " misled by certain sly, lank-haired, plausi-" ble Americans; and so piqued were we by " the sarcasms of Mr. Cobbett, that though " he clearly convinced us of our error, we " could not, at that time, bring ourselves " to acknowledge it; but, when we have "the "demonstration" before us, it would " be too bad to persist any longer."-I have this minute so far got the better of a fit of laziness as to refer to the 12th Volume of the Register, page 257; and, if the reader will do the same, and will go through an article which he will there find, and a few others, of a later date, he will be amused to see how I combatted all those, in parliament or out, who were on the American side, and how exactly I foretold not only the events themselves, but the causes, time, and manner of them. I even took great pains, nine months before that, to point out to the public the objections to the appointment of Mr. Erskine, as will be seen by a reference to vol. X. page -As to the consequences of a stoppage of intercourse with America, few people, very few indeed, were, at first, of my opinion. The current of public persuasion set strongly the other way. Most of the periodical publications were against me; and, which were of most fearful weight, the Morning Chronicle and the Edinburgh Review. I fairly beat the whole of them, and had the satisfaction to see, at last, the public on my side. --- And yet, the public-robbers would fain persuade people that I am a low and insignificant person! Why, George Rose and Lord Palmerston and Mr. Sturges and Mr. Poulter and parson Woodcock and Mr. Portal and all the race of the Heathcotes and Chutes whether clerical or military, will never, the whole of them put together,

produce, during their whole lives, a millionth part so much effect in the affairs of the nation, and of the world, as was produced by me in the labour of the single day, the 20th of August, 1807. -- So Mr. Perry has, then, in good earnest, found out. that he was in error, too, about the Barley-growers? There, again, I had to fight another battle against popular delusion, backed by the land-owners and Mr. Ar--I must return to this subthur Young .ject, when I have more time. But I must even now observe, that, I beg not to be considered as adopting Mr. Perry's opinion, that, in seven years from this date, our soil, if agriculture be not discouraged, will produce double the quantity of food necessary for our subsistence. You may as well suppose, that a mouse or an ant or a bee will collect together for winter twice as much food as it requires for its support. You may as well suppose, that, in seven years time, we shall be all seized with the humour of purchasing two loaves and two legs of mutton, when we want only one of each. No; Mr. Perry, when a nation finds that it is getting more corn than it wants, it turns its labour into other channels, just as naturally as you and I, when we have filled up our columns, leave off writing, and go at something else .beg leave also to disclaim being a party to any hope, that the corn laws will become a subject of " deliberate discussion during the " next session of parliament." Mr. Perry hopes this, because it is " a matter of " great importance;" but, that is the very reason, why I would not have it a subject of discussion in parliament. The parliament cannot make corn grow; and its wisest way is, never more to say a word about corn laws .--If corn should become dearer now, after this re-opening of the intercourse with America, what speculations we shall have amongst the philosophers, who, for the sins of St. James's and Bond Streets, write in the Morning Post and the Courier! What speculations! The cause will be in the short crop, which, from present appearances, I think very likely; but, these philosophers always insist, that the crop is abundant, and that the high price arises from some other cause.

SPAIN.—Intelligence, which I have this day received from Spain, and of which I have hardly time to say a word, gives me some reason to hope, that, at last, the JUNTA AT SEVILLE, that is to say, the Government, has, by this time, adopted the wise measure of encouraging the people to come forth in defence of their country, by

offering them a government worth fighting for. For the authenticity of the document, which I here insert below, I pledge myself. I have, in fact, received it from SE-VILLE, and though not from a member of the Junta, from a person well acquainted with all that was going on, and who speaks in very high terms of the members of that body. - He informs me, that the Pro-CLAMATION, of which I here insert a translation, was debating, when he wrote, on the 11th of May, and, as he supposed, would be carried. - In the mean while, the liberty of the press had revived, and this gentleman, who has been induced to write to me from " the congeniality of our senti-" ments" relative to Spain, has sent me several numbers of a publication, somewhat in the manner of the Register, entiuled "Semanario Patriotico," abounding in excellent sentiments, and written with great freedom. - The intended Proclamation will speak for itself. Would to God it were issued, and the decree put in full force! - But, LORD WELLESLEY! Aye, I had forgotten that! He is just going off! -Well, let the public bear in mind, that it was at this time, that the Spanish Junta were debating upon the propriety of issuing the following Proclamation and Decree.

Botley, 15th June, 1809.

THE SUPREME GOVERNING JUNTA TO THE SPANISH NATION.

It is three ages, Spaniards, since the salutary laws on which the nation founded its defence against the attempts of tyranny, have been destroyed.—Our fathers did not know how to preserve the precious deposit of liberty, which their fathers had bequeathed them, and although all the provinces of Spain successively struggled to defend it, our evil stars which now began to pursue us, have rendered useless those generous efforts .- After having silenced reason and justice, the laws from that time forward, have been nothing else than an expression, more or less tyrannical, or more or less beneficent of a particular will.-Providence, as if to punish the loss of that beautiful prerogative of freemen, has sentenced us to be unhappy, and paralised our valour, arrested the progress of our understanding, protracted civilization, and after having blended and exhausted the fountains of prosperity, we have come to that condition, that an insolent Tyrant has formed a project of subduing under his yoke, the greatest nation

929] of the will, ar In vain within in whi princes the oth the inc lately i of Refo Buildin and wil laws to and to to be d in his theatre the go medita are eit should ground spiration nate o order, to a p cious a tion of inhum princi fixed ! dispos state helm the S pieces Tyrai ed fro calcu in suc a Re

Junta which powe count meets difficin the

ment our en they dence lour are g

miser of ar passi

Thu

of the globe, without reckoning upon its

In vain have there been some instances

within these last three ages of disasters,

in which the best directed will of the

princes has attempted to remedy this, or

the other plagues of the state. - In vain

the increased illustration of Europe has

lately inspired our statesmen with projects

Buildings cannot be erected upon sands,

and without fundamental and constituted

laws to defend the good already done,

and to prevent the evil which is intended

to be done, it is useless for the philosopher

in his study, and the public man in the

theatre of business, to exert himself, for

the good of the people. The most useful

meditations, the best combined projects,

are either not put in execution, or if they

should be, they immediately fall to the

ground.-In the moment of a happy in-

spiration, succeeds another of an unfortu-

nate one-to the spirit of œconomy and

order, a spirit of prodigality and rapine-

to a prudent and mild minister, an avari-

cious and mad favourite—to the moderation of a pacific monarch, the rage of an

inhuman conqueror—and thus, without

principles, without an established and

fixed system to which public measures and

dispositions can be affixed, the ship of the

state floats without her sails, without a

helm or direction, until, as has happened to

the Spanish Monarchy, it is dashed to

pieces on some rock by the hurricane of

ed from so vicious a beginning cannot be

calculated, when they are accumulated

in such a manner, that nothing less than

a Revolution can destroy them.—The

Junta itself, in the midst of the power which you had placed in its hands, a

power which makes them tremble on ac-

count of its unlimited extension, frequently

meets in those ancient vices, insuperable

difficulties in the execution of its wishes.

in the last twenty years had been less, be-

lieve, Spaniards, that your evils at this mo-

-If the disorders of the Government

----The evils which are deriv-

of Reforms, both useful, and necessary.-

will, and despising its resistance.

923 for. my-SEf the with ks in that PROrans-, on sed,

hile, this rite ntime

mentindten roto

m . 1 d. sh

of rd

ment would not be so great-believe, that our enemies would not enjoy the advantages

they obtained, not over the zeal and prudence of your Government, nor over the va-

lour and constancy which every moment are greater in you, but over the ruinous and

miserable state to which the many years

Tyranny.-

of arbitrary government which has been passing over us, has brought us to .-

Thus it is, that when the Supreme Junta

Supplement to No. 24 .- Price 1s.

did not deem itself less called upon to defend you from the enemy, than to procure and establish your interior felicity on a solid basis.—It announced this solemaly to you from the beginning, and as solemnly obliged itself in the face of the world to the performance of this sacred

took upon itself the supreme authority, it

duty.—The events of the war prevented at that time the commencing the grand work, to which it is now going to put its hand, and the unexpected commotions

which have succeeded, one after another, seemed to require the suspension of any other object, and to wait for more serene and tranquil times.—But, the Junta never

lost sight of this grand thought, the same chain of evils, with which fortune, when roused, delights in proving our constancy, is that which precipitates its execution .-

How other ways can be recompensed those floods of blood which run through every corner of the Peninsula!—those sacrifices which at every instant the Spanish loyalty

presents without being over fatigued by them, that moral resistance, as universal, as it is sublime, which disconcerts, and renders desperate our enemies, even in the midst of their victories. He must have a breast of brass, who, to a people that so magna-

nimously resists so cruel a calamity, should not point out to him immediately a crown of happiness, which awaits him, as a recompence for his heroic fatigues. When this dreadful contest is concluded, no less

beautiful for our people, when persecuted by misfortune, than when crowned by victory, the Spaniard shall say to himself, with that full pride which his situation

ought to inspire him, " My fathers have " left me for an inheritance, slavery and " misery-I leave to my descendants " liberty and glory." This sentiment of future happiness, which, by reflection in

some, and by instinct in all, animates you at present, Spaniards, is the same which has made you abhor the former tyranny, which has reduced you to the deplorable state in which you see yourself; the same which filled you with enthusiasm

and with hope when you should be able to destroy it, and raise to the throne that innocent prince, who most sincerely wished to make you happy; the same which gave you valour and boldness to declare war against the most powerful nation, with-

out armies and without resources; the same, in a word, which inspired you with invincible horror against that tyrant who

has thrown upon you all the plagues of

misfortune. Know then, that this institution of happiness shall not be defrauded of its hopes. Let us take from our detractors every pretext for calumniating us; they say that we are fighting incessantly to defend our ancient abuses, and the inveterate and enormous vices of our corrupted administration. But let them know, from this moment, that your battles, although for independence, are also for the felicity of your country. Let them know that you do not wish to depend henceforward on the uncertain will, or the variable temperament, of one man only; that you do not wish to continue to be the plaything of a court without justice, under the controul of an insolent favorite, or of a capricious woman; and that on the renewal of the august edifice of your ancient laws, you wish to place an eternal barrier between the death-bearing despotism of your sacred rights. This barrier, Spaniards, consists in a good Constitution, to aid and support the operations of the Monarch, when they are just, and to restrain them when he follows evil counsels. Without a Constitution, all Reform is precarious, all prosperity uncertain; without it, the people are no more than flocks of slaves, put in motion at the order of a will, frequently unjust, and always unrestrained; without it, the forces of the entire society, intended to procure the greatest advantages for all its members, are employed exclusively to satisfy the ambition, or satiate the phrenzy of a few, and perhaps of only one. It is absolutely necessary that you should have a Constitution, by which a Reform of all the branches which are to contribute to your prosperity, are solidly secured; from whence the basis and principles of a sociable organization, worthy of men like you, may be derived. This Constitution, Spaniards, ought to be the principal effect of your toils, a comfort for the desolation you have suffered, the reward of your labour, and the hopes of your victories. It certainly will not exhibit the infamous characters which are contained in the infamous Code published by Napoleon at Bayonne, and framed long before in the deposit of his intrigues. With it they wanted to legitimate the most monstrous usurpation, known in the annals of the world. With ours, it is intended to secure the public prosperity of the state, and the particular one of the citizens, performing bona fide, what all the nation wishes; in that there was not time to deliberate, nor liberty to resist, nor powers to es-

tablish. In ours, the actual Representatives of the nation will excite wise men to expose freely what they think, they will call them to examine, and discuss the same political truths, and the best form of its application; and the work of their knowledge, their zeal, and their experience, shall be presented before the free sanction of the nation, solemnly assembled in Cortes. The insidious forms of the Constitution of Bayonne are not sufficient to disguise the legalised despotism that appears in every part of it. In the Spanish Constitution, the Public Will, lawfully and sufficiently expressed, shall be the Law; government limiting its functions, within the terms which nature has pointed out in the political order. The consequences of the one, worthy in every respect of the fountain of iniquity from whence they spring, have been, the plunder, the perdition, the ruin, and the deplorable desolation of the men and of the people, for whose felicity it was said to be intended. The other, founded on the basis of virtue, and purchased at the expence of the most glorious efforts of patriotism, will have for its undeniable results, the liberty, and lasting happiness The Supreme of the Spanish nation. Junta has taken the rudder of the Monarchy, in the midst of the storm, and will only keep it, whilst danger and uncertainty exist, contributing by these direct and principal ways to cast this grand anchor, which so materially contributes to save the country from danger, in doing which it believes, that it fills one of its most religious obligations.

This should not be less glorious in the eyes of the nation, and of its political interests, than the extirpation of its enemies, and the triumph of the Spanish arms; and when the day comes, that it shall lay down the authority now invested in them into the hands of that government, which the Constitution shall appoint, it will be for them the most glorious day of their political existence. Then they will think themselves rewarded for their watchfulness, their cares, and the dangers to which they are subject, by exercising a power to which they were not elevated by ambition, nor called by intrigue, but by the unanimous and determined vote of the provinces of the kingdom, that have sworn to be independent of all foreign dominion, and within themselves free and happy. Such have been the considerations the Supreme Junta had in view, in

agreeing to the following Decree:

Th kinge oblig evils which trary pursu our v who narc Repr ous t eyes noble and I great the i roic : ious

933]

18 tated to th nera of pi the. fall answ

of pe

obtai

and

cree

2r Junt with date subs they 31

mine

those by t they orde Refo ated

side in th the appr 51

Junt Sano racte 6

judg with lieve mon tatives

to ex-

same

of its

know-

ience,

nction

Cortes.

ion of

se the

every

n, the

y ex-

ment

erms

poli-

one.

in of

have

ruin,

men

ty it

und-

ased

forts

able

ness

eme

Mo-

and

un-

di-

and

5 10

ng

its

he

e-

ed

ıt,

of

H

ROYAL DECREE.

The Supreme Governing Power of the kingdom, considering it to be its primary obligation to free the country from the evils which have until now afflicted it; all which have been occasioned by the arbitrary laws to which it has been subject; pursuing the just and mild intentions of our very beloved king Ferdinand the 7th, who was desirous to re-constitute the Monarchy, re-establishing in it the National Representation of its ancient Cortes, desirous that the nation should take before the eyes of Europe and of the Universe, the noble and strong acts of a people worthily and legally constituted, desirous that this great work should be performed, which the circumstances command, and the heroic sacrifices of the people require, anxious that it should approach to that degree of perfection which men are allowed to obtain, when they proceed with good faith, and with a desire of doing right, has decreed as follows:

1st. All wise Spaniards who have meditated on projects of Reform with respect to the constitution of the kingdom in general, as well as on the particular branches of public administration, are invited by the Junta to communicate their ideas with fall liberty, and as they may judge may answer best for the good of their country.

2nd. Those Writings shall be sent to the Junta through the Secretary's Office, within the term of two months from the date of this decree, and the authors will subscribe their names, or a mark by which they may be known in proper time.

3rd. These Writings after being examined in a summary way, the writers of those which are found to be really useful by the observations, or by the knowledge they contain, shall be called upon, in order to take a part in the Commissions of Reform, which shall be immediately created.

4th. These Commissions shall be presided each by a member of the Junta, and in them will be examined and prepared the works which are to be presented for approbation.

5th. The Projects approved of by the Junta shall be presented to the National Sanction, and from it will receive the character, the authority, and the force of law.

6th. The Junta does not anticipate its judgment, to prepossess the public opinion with respect to these projects, it only believes that it ought to announce from this moment certain principles, upon which

the wish and desire of the nation has irrevocably resolved, and from which nothing that can be written or discussed on the subject of Reform, can alter. Those principles are reduced to the following:

The Catholic, Apostolic, Roman Religion, is the only Religion of the State .-The constitution of Spain is to be a monarchy, hereditary in Ferdinand the 7th, his descendants, and those called by the Law to succeed them.—The nation is to be governed henceforward by the Laws freely deliberated, and administered—there shall be a National Cortes, in the manner and form which may be established, taking into consideration the difference and alterations which have taken place since the time when they were lawfully held. - Our Americas and other colonies shall be the same as the Metropolis in all Rights and Constitutional Prerog tives .- The reform which our legal codes, administration, and recovery of public rents, and every thing belonging to the direction of commerce, agriculture, arts, education, as well national, marine, and warlike, are to undergo, shall be only and exclusively directed to obtain the greatest ease, and the better illustration of the Spanish people, so horridly teazed until now.

7. The nation which shall be legally

and solemnly constituted from

On that day, the General Cortes of the Spanish monarchy, after being so long neglected, shall meet together for the first time.

COBBETT'S COMPLETE COLLECTION OF

State Trials:

To be completed in Thirty-Six Monthly Parts, forming Twelve large Volumes in Royal Octavo.

The Sixth Part of the above Work was published on Thursday the 1st instant. One Part will appear, with the greatest regularity, on the first of each succeeding Month. Those Subscribers who have expressed their intention of taking the Work in Quarterly Volumes, are respectfully informed that the Second Volume is now ready for delivery. In order to remove all professional doubts, as to how far this new and enlarged Edition of the State Trials may, with safety, be cited as authority in the Courts, and relied on as of equal authenticity with the former, I think it right to state, that it is intended to be a literal transcript of the last edition, as far as that

19.

20.

21.

23.

25

29

30

31

edition extends; that where I have inserted fuller and better reports of any Cases, or of any parts of Cases, the text of the old Edition will nevertheless be retained; and that the new matter will be distinguished in a manner not to be mistaken, and be distinctly pointed out in the Table of Contents to each volume. - In the last Volume will also be given what I call a Pa-RALLEL INDEX, consisting of two Columns; in the first of which will be inserted, in their order, the numbers of all the Pages in the last Edition; and in the other, correspondent figures shewing in what Volume and Page of the present Work the contents of each page of the last Edition will be found; by means of which Parallel Index, the place in this Work of any passage occurring in the last Edition, may be ascertained with nearly as much ease and expedition as if the paging of that Edition were preserved; which, it is obvious, would be perfectly impracticable, considering the valuable mass of new matter to be introduced.

To such Gentlemen as may happen to be in possession of curious Trials, or of documents relating to Trials of the description of those to be contained in this Work, I shall be much obliged for a communication of them. If the document, or paper, whether in print or manuscript, be requested to be preserved, great care shall be taken of it.

The following is a List of the Articles contained in the First and Second Volumes; from which it will be seen, that of the 126 Trials or Proceedings, of which they consist, Fifty-nine never before came into any collection.

* The new Matter is marked [N.] CONTENTS OF VOL. I.

Prefaces to former Editions of the State Trials.

Mr. Salmon's Preface to the first Edition of the State Trials, in four volumes folio: printed in the year 1719.

Mr. Salmon's Preface to the case of Ship Money, which was printed in a separate volume, by way of Supplement to the first

Mr. Emlyn's Preface to the second Edition of the State Trials, in six volumes folio: printed in the year 1730.

Preface to the seventh and eighth volumes of the State Trials : printed in the year 1735.

Preface to the Ninth and Tenth Volumes of the State Trials : printed in the year 1766. Mr. Hargrave's Preface to the Fourth Edition

of the State Trials, in Ten volumes folio: printed in the Year 1775. Mr. Hargrave's Preface to the Eleventh (or Supplemental) Volume of the Fourth Edition of the State Trials: printed in the Year 1781.

STATE TRIALS IN THE REIGN OF HENRY THE SECOND.

1. Proceedings against Thomas Becket, Arch-bishop of Canterbury, for High Treason, 1163. [N.]

HENRY THE THIRD.

2. Articles of Accusation against Hubert De Burgh, with the Answers of Master Laurence, Clerk of St. Alban's, on behalf of Hubert de Burgh, earl of Kent, 1239. [N.]

EDWARD THE FIRST.

3. Proceedings against Piers Gaveston, 1307, [N.]

EDWARD THE SECOND.

4. Proceedings against Hugh and Hugh le Despenser, 1320. [N.]

5. Proceedings against Adam de Orleton, bishop of Hereford, for Treason, 1323. [N.]
6. Proceedings against Thomas Earl of Lan-

caster, for Treason, 1327. [N.]

7. Proceedings against King Edward the Second, 1327. [N.]

EDWARD THE THIRD.

8. Impeachment of Roger Mortimer, Earl of March, for Treason, 1330. [N.]

9. Proceedings against Thomas de Berkele, for the Murder of King Edward the Second, 1331. [N.]

10. Proceedings against John Stratford, Archbishop of Canterbury, for Treason, 1341.

11. Proceedings against John Wickliffe, for Heresy, 1377. [N.]

RICHARD THE SECOND.

12. Proceedings in Parliament against Alexander Nevil, Archbishop of York, Robert Vere, Duke of Ireland, Michael de la Pole, Earl of Suffolk, Robert Tresilian, Lord Chief Justice of England, and Nicholas Brambre, some time Mayor of Lon-

don, and Others, for High Treason, 1388.

13. Impeachment of Thomas Fitz-Alan, Archbishop of Canterbury, of High Treason, 1397. [N.]

14. Impeachment of Thomas Duke of Gloucester, Richard Earl of Arundel, Thomas Earl of Warwick, Thomas Mortimer, and Sir John Cobham, knight, of High Treason, 1397. [N.]

HENRY THE FOURTH.

15. Articles of Accusation against Richard the

Second, King of England, 1399. [N.]

16. Proceedings against John Hall, for the Murder of Thomas Duke of Gloucester,

1399. [N.] 17. Proceedings against William Sautre, for Heresy, 1400. [N.]

18. Trial and Examination of Master William Thorpe, Preste, for Heresye, before Thomas Arundel, Archbishop of Canterbury: written by himself, 1407.

the

OF

rch-

rea-

De

au-

of

07,

es-

n,

ę.,

of

19. Proceedings against John Badby, for Heresy, 1409. [N.]

HENRY THE FIFTH.

20. Trial and Examination of sir John Oldcastle, Lord Cobham, for Heresy, before the Archbishop of Canterbury: 1409.

HENRY THE SIXTH.

- 21. Proceedings, upon an ex post facto Act, against sir John Mortimer, for making his Escape from Prison, 1424. [N.]
- 22. Proceedings against Henry Beautort, bishop of Winchester, for High Treason, 1426,
- 23. Proceedings against William de la Pole, Duke of Suffolk, for High Treason, 1451. [N.]

EDWARD THE FOURTH.

24. Proceedings against George Duke of Clarence, brother to king Edward the Fourth, for Treason, 1478. [N]

HENRY THE SEVENTH.

25. Trial of Sir William Stanley, knight, for High Treason, 1494.

HENRY THE EIGHTH.

- Trial of Sir Thomas Empson, knight, and Edmund Dudley, esq. for High Treason, 1509.
- 27. Trial of Edward Duke of Buckingham, for High Treason, 1522.
- 28. Proceedings relating to the Dissolution of the Marriage between Henry the Eighth and Catherine of Arragon, 1528. [N.]
- 29. Proceedings against Thomas Wolsey, Cardinal and Archbishop of York, upon a præmunire, and for other offences, 1529. [N.]
- The Trial of sir Thomas More, knt. Lord Chancellor of England, for High Treason, in denying the King's Supremacy, 1535.
- The Trial of John Fisher, bishop of Rochester, before Commissioners of Oyer and Terminer, at Westminster, for High Treason, 1535.
- The Trial of William Lord Dacres of the North, for High Treason, in the Court of the Lord High Steward, 1535.
- 33. The Trials of Queen Anna Boleyn, and her Brother Lord Viscount Rochford, for High Treason, in the Court of the Lord High Steward; and also of Henry Norris, Mark Smeton, William Brereton, and sir Francis Weston, before Commissioners of Oyer and Terminer, for the same Offence, 1536.
- S4. Proceedings against Thomas Cromwell,
- Earl of Essex, for High Treason, 1541. [N.]
 35. The Trial of Lord Leonard Grey, at Westminster, for High Treason, 1541.
- 36. The Trial of sir Edmond Knevet, at Greenwich, for striking a person within the King's Palace there, 1541.
- King's Palace there, 1541.

 37. Proceedings against Queen Catherine Howard for Incontinency, 1549, IN 1
- ard, for Incontinency, 1542. [N.]
 38. The Trial of Henry Earl of Surrey, for High Treason, with the Proceedings against

- his Father, Thomas Duke of Norfolk, for the same Crime, 1546.
- 39. Proceedings against Various Persons in the Reign of Henry 8, for Treason, in denying the King's Supremacy; and other capital Crimes, principally relating to Religion.

EDWARD THE SIXTH.

- Proceedings in Parliament against Sir Thomas Seymour, knt. Lord Seymour of Sudley, for High Treason, 1549.
- Proceedings in Parliament against Edward Duke of Somerset, Lord Protector, for Misdemeanors and High Treason, 1550.
- 42. Proceedings in Parliament against Edward Duke of Somerset, for High Treason and Felony, at Westminster, 1551.
- 43. Proceedings concerning the Non-Conformity in Religion of the Lady Mary, Sister of King Edward the Sixth, afterwards Queen of England, 1551. [N.]
- 44. Proceedings against Stephen Gardiner, Bishop of Winchester, for opposing the Reformation of Religion, and disobeying the King's Orders and Injunctions respecting the same, 1551. [N.]
- 45. Proceedings against Edmund Bonner, Bishop of London, for opposing the Reformation of Religion, 1550. [N.]

MARY.

- 46. Proceedings against sir James Hales, Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, for his Conduct at the Assizes in Kent, 1553.
 [N.]
- 47. Proceedings against Lady Jane Grey, and Others, for Treason, 1553. [N.]
- 48. Arraignment and Execution of Henry Grey Duke of Suffolk, 1553. [N.]
- 49. Trials of John Dudley Duke of Northumberland, William Parr Marquis of Northampton, and John Dudley Earl of Warwick, for High Treason, in the Court of the Lord High Steward, at Westminster: and also of Sir John Gates, Sir Henry Gates, Sir Andrew Dudley, and Sir Thomas Palmer, at Westminster, for the same
- Crime, 1553.

 50. Proceedings against Thomas Cranmer Archbishop of Canterbury, for Treason and Heresy, 1556. [N.]
- 51. The Arraignment of Sir Thomas Wyat, knt. at Westminster, for High Treason,
- 52. The Trial of Sir Nicholas Throckmorton, knt. in the Guildhall of London, for High Treason: Together with the Proceedings against sir Nicholas Throckmorton's Jury, 1554.

ELIZABETH.

- 53. The Trial of James Earl Bothwell, for the Morder of Henry Lord Darnley, Husband of Mary Queen of Scots, at the Senate House of Edinburgh, 1567.
- 54. The Trial and Sentence of William Powrie, George Dalgleish, John Hay younger of Talo, and John Hepburn of Bowton, concerning the Murder of Heavy Earl Durn-

941]

88. 7

89. 7

92.

95.

96.

97.

99.

100

101

10

10

10

10

ley, Husband of Mary Queen of Scots: with their Examinations, Depositions, and Confessions: as also, the Declaration of Nicholas Hubert, a Frenchman, commonly called Paris, in relation to that Murder, and other matters, 1567.

55. Trial of the Earl of Mortoun, for the Murder of Henry Lord Darnley, Husband of Mary Queen of Scots, 1581. [N.]

Mary Queen of Scots, 1581. [N.]
56. The Trial of Thomas Howard Duke of Norfolk, before the Lords at Westminster, for High Treason, 1571.

57. The Trial of Mr. Robert Hickford, (Servant of the Duke of Norfolk), at the Queen's Bench, for High Treason, 1571.

58. The Arraignment of Edmund Campion, Sherwin, Bosgrave, Cottam, Johnson, Bristow, Kirbie, and Orton, for High Treason, 1581. [N.]

59. Arraignment, Judgment and Execution of John Story, for Treason, 1571. [N.]

60. The Trial of Dr. William Parry, at Westminster, for High Treason, 1584.

61. Inquisition of a Jury of the City of London before the Coroner, had upon occasion of the Death of the Earl of Northumberland: with a Report of his Treasons, 1585. [N.]

62. Proceedings against Anthony Babington, Chidiock Titchburne, Thomas Salisbury, Robert Barnewell, John Savage, Henry Donn, and John Ballard, at Westminster, for High Treason, 1586

63. The Trial of Edward Abington, Charles Tilney, Edward Jones, John Travers, John Charnock, Jerome Bellamy, and Robert Gage, at Westminster, for High Treason, 1586.

64. Proceedings against Mary Queen of Scots; for being concerned in a Conspiracy against Queen Elizabeth; with things previous thereto, and necessary to introduce and explain those Proceedings, 1586.

65. The Arraignment of William Davison (Secretary of State to Queen Flizabeth) in the Star-Chamber, for Misprision and Contempt, 1587.

66. The Trial of Philip Howard, Earl of Arundel, before the Lords, for High Treason,

67. The Arraignment of Sir Richard Knightly, and Others, in the Star-Chamber, for maintaining seditious Persons, Books, and Libels, 1588.

68. The Trial of Mr. John Udall, a Puritan Minister, at Croydon Assizes, for Felony, 1590.

69. The Trial of Sir John Perrot, Lord Deputy of Ireland, at Westminster, for High Treason, 1592.

70. The Trial of Robert Earl of Essex, and Henry Earl of Southampton, before the Lords, at Westminster, for High Treason, 1600.

71. Proceedings in Parliament against John Earl of Gowrie, Alexander Ruthven his Brother, Henry Ruthven, Hugh Moncrief, and Peter Eviot, for High Treason, 1600.

72. The Arraignment and Judgment of Cap-

tain Thomas Lee, at the Sessions house near Newgate, for High Treason, 1600.

73. The Trial of Sir Christopher Blunt, Sir Charles Davers, Sir John Davis, Sir Gilly Merrick, and Henry Cuffe, at Westminster, for High Treason, 1600.

VOL. II.

JAMES THE FIRST.

74. The Trial of Sir Walter Raleigh, knt. at Winchester, for High Treason, 1603.

75. The Trial of Sir Griffin Markham, knt. sir Edward Parham, knt. George Brooke, esq. Bartholomew Brookesby, esq. Anthony Copley, William Watson, Priest, and William Clarke, Priest, for High Treason, at Winchester, 1603.

76. Proceedings in a Conference at Hampton Court, respecting Reformation of the Church, 1604 [N.]

77. The Case between Sir Francis Goodwin and Sir John Fortescue, relative to a Return for the County of Buckingham, 1604.

78. The Case of Mixed Money in Ireland, 1605.

79. Articuli Cleri: Articles (so intitled by Lord Coke) of Complaint against the Judges of the Realm; exhibited by Richard Bancroft, Archbishop of Canterbury, in the name of the whole Clergy. 1605. Together with the Answers thereunto by all the Judges and Barons [N.]

80. The Trials of Robert Winter, Thomas Winter, Guy Fawkes, John Grant, Ambrose Rookwood, Robert Keyes, Thomas Bates, and Sir Everard Digby, at Westminster, for fligh Treason, being Conspirators in

the Gunpowder-Plot, 1606.
31. The Trial of Henry Garnet, Superior of the Jesuits in England, at the Guildhall of London, for High Treason, being a Conspirator in the Gunpowder Plot, 1606.

82. A true Report of the Arraignment, Tryall, Conviction and Condemnation, of a Popish Priest, named Robert Drewrie, at the Sessions-house in the Old Baylie, on Friday and Wednesday, the 20th and 24th of February, 1607 [N.]

83. The Case of Impositions, on an Information in the Exchequer by the Attorney-General against Mr. John Bates, Merchant, 1606—1610.

84. The Conviction and Attainder of Robert Lalor, Priest, being indicted on the Statute of the 16th Richard II. cap. 5: Commonly called, The Case of Præmunire in Ireland.

85. The Case of the Postnati, or of the Union of the Realm of Scotland with England, 1608.

86. The Trial of George Sprot, in Scotland, for High Treason, in conspiring with John Earl of Gowrie, to murder King James I. 1608.

87. The Process and Trial of Robert Logan, of Restalrig, for High Treason, in conspiring with John Earl of Gowrie, to murder King James I. 1609.

use

Sir

illy

m-

at

SIF

ke,

10.

nd

m,

on

he

e-

e

83. The Trial of Lord Balmerinoth, at St. Andrews, for High Treason, 1609.

89. The Case of Proclamations, 1610 [N.]

90. The Cases of Bartholomew Legat and Edward Wightman, for Heresy, 1612 [N].

91. The Earl of Shrewsbury's Case; or the Case of Dignities, 1612 [N.]

92. The Arraignment and Confession of the Lord Sanquire, (who, being a Baron of Scotland, was arraigned by the name of Robert Creighton, esq.) at the King'sbench Bar, in Westminster-hall, the 27th of June, for procuring the Murder of John Turner, a Master of Defence, whom he caused to be shot with a Pistol by one

Carliel, a Scottish-man, for thrusting out one of his Eyes in playing at Rapier and Dagger, 1612.

 Proceedings against Mr. James Whitelocke, in the Star-Chamber, for a Contempt of the King's Prerogative, 1613.

94. Proceedings against Mary Countess of Shrewsbury, before a Select Council, for a Contempt in refusing to answer fully before the Privy Council, or to subscribe her Examination, 1612.

95. Case of Mr. William Talbot, on an information ore tenus, for maintaining a Power in the Pope to depose and kill Kings,

96. Proceedings between the Lady Frances Howard, Countess of Essex, and Robert Earl of Essex, her Husband, before the King's Delegates, in a Cause of Divorce, 1613.

97. The Earl of Northampton's Case, 1613[N.]

98. Proceedings against Dr. Richard Neile, Bishop of Lincoln, for Words spoken in the House of Lords, 1614 [N.]

The Case of Edmund Peacham, for Treason, 1615 [N.]

100. The Case of John Owen, otherwise Collins, for Treason, 1615 [N.]

 Proceedings against John Ogilvie, for High Treason, at Glasgow, in Scotland, 1615.

102. The Case of Mr. Oliver St. John, on an Information ore tenus, in the Star-Chamber, for writing and publishing a Paper against a Benevolence collected under Letters of the Privy-Council, 1615.

103. The Trial of Richard Weston, at the Guildhall of London, for the Murder of Sir Thomas Overbury, 1615.

Sir Thomas Overbury, 1615.

104. The Trial of Anne Turner, Widow, at the King's bench, for the Murder of Sir Thomas Overbury, 1615.

105. The Trial of Sir Jervis Elwes, knt. Lieutenant of the Tower, at the Guildhall of London, for the Murder of Sir Thomas Overbury, 1615.

106. The Trial of James Franklin, at the King's-bench, for the Murder of Sir Thomas Overbury, 1615.

The Arraignment of Sir Thomas Monson, knt. at the Guildhall of London, for the Murder of Sir Thomas Overbury, 1615.
 The Trial of the Lady Frances Counters

of Somerset, for the Murder of Sir Thomas Overbury, 1616.

 The Trial of Robert Carr, Earl of Somerset, for the Murder of Sir Thomas Overbury, 1616.

110. The Proceedings against Sir John Hollis, Sir John Wentworth, and Mr. Lomsden, in the Star-Chamber, for traducing the Public Justice, 1615.

111. The Case of Duels: or Proceedin's in the Star-Chamber, against Mr. William Priest, for writing and sending a Challenge, and Mr. R. Wright for carrying it, 1615.

112. The Case of Mary Smith, for Witchcraft, 1616 [N.]

113. Proceedings against Mr. Wraynham, in the Star Chamber, for slandering the Lord-Chancellor Bacon of Injustice, 1618.

114. The Case of Williams, of Essex, for Treason, 1619 [N.]

115. Proceedings in Parliament against Francis
Bacon Lord Verulam, Viscount St. Albans, Lord Chancellor of England, upon
an Impeachment for Bribery and Corruption in the Execution of his Office:
And also against Dr. Theophilus Field,
Bishop of Llandaff, 1620.

116. Proceedings in Parliament against Sir Giles Mompesson, a Monopolist and Patentee, 1620 [N.]

117. Proceedings in Parliament against Sir Francis Michell, a Monopolist and Patentee, and Co-partner with Sir Gilcs Mompesson, 1621 [N.]

118. Proceedings against Sir Henry Yelverton, the King's Attorney-General, for Misdemeanors, 1621 [N.]

119. Proceedings in Parliament against Sir John Bennett, knt. for Bribery and Corruption, 1621 [N.]

120. Proceedings in Parliament against Edward Floyde, for scandalizing the Princess Palatine, 1621 [N.]

121. Proceedings against George Abbot, Archbishop of Canterbury, for the killing of Edward Hawkins, one of the Lord Zouch's Keepers, 1621 [N.]

122. Proceedings on the Impeachment of the Lord Treasurer Middlesex, for High Crimes and Misdemeanors, 1624 [N.]

123. Proceedings in Parliament against Samuel Harsnet, Bishop of Norwich, for Extortion and other Misdemeanors, 1624 [N.]

CHARLES THE FIRST.

124. Proceedings in Parliament against Richard Mountague, Clerk, for publishing a factious and reditious Book, 1625 [N.]

Duke of Buckingham, the Earl of Bristol, and the Lord Conway, for High Crimes and Misdemeanors, 1626 [N.]

126. Case of George Abbot, Archbishop of Canterbury, for refusing to licence a Sermon preached by Dr. Sibthorpe, in order to promote the Loan and to justify the King's imposing Public Taxes without consent of Parliament, 1627 [N.]

PROCEEDINGS

In Counties, Cities, Boroughs, &c. relative to the recent INQUIRY in the House of Commons, respecting the Conduct of the DUKE OF YORK. (Continued from p. 889.)

TOWN OF HUDDERSFIELD.

At a numerous and respectable Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town and Neighbourhood of Huddersfield held this day, May 30, 1809, (in pursuance of public Notice given for that purpose,) --- Joshua Ingham, esq. in the Chair,-It was re-

solved unanimously,

That the grateful Thanks of this Meeting be given to G. L. Wardle, esq. for the undaunted, firm, and patriotic manner in which he brought forward, and prosecuted the late Inquiry into the Conduct of his Royal Highness the Duke of York; as his exertions to develope the existence of Abuses and Corruption, (during which the utmost influence of the whole phalanx of ministers, placemen, and pensioners, was used to intimidate, futilize, and baffle the evidence brought forward by him;) not only occasioned the removal of his Royal Highness from office, but, by having opened the eyes of the country to the conduct of their Representatives, is likely to be productive of the happiest and most important consequences to the nation at large.

2. That the Thanks of this Meeting be also given to sir Francis Burdett, bart. (who seconded and supported the Motion of Mr. Wardle,) to lord Folkestone, Mr. Whitbread, sir S. Romilly, gen. Ferguson, adm. Markham, and the rest of the independent Minority of 125, who, by the manly avowal of their sentiments, and their conscientious and unbiassed Votes, in support of the said Motion, have shown themselves at once the Friends of the People and the Enemies of Corruption :-Also, to W. Wilberforce, esq. and lord Milton, (members for this great and populous county,) for the support they gave to

the said Inquiry.

3. That ministers, by their conduct during the late Investigation, in endeavouring to prevent the exposure and reform of abuses, and by ranging themselves as the defenders and supporters of delinquents, have acted in direct opposition to their duty, as servants of the nation.

4. That the patriotic exertions of the public, and their patient endurance of the enormous and extraordinary burdens imposed upon them, entitle them to expect the utmost vigilance and economy in the administration of the public money; and that delinquents do not escape the infamy and punishment their peculation so justly merits.

5. That it appears by a Report laid on the table of the House of Commons, in June last, in consequence of a Motion made by lord Cochrane, (for that purpose,) that 78 of its members receive 178,9941. a-year, out of the taxes raised upon the people, and of course out of the money to watch over the expenditure of which they are appointed; being in direct opposition to the act of parliament commonly called the Act of Settlement, and in virtue of which act, his majesty's family was raised to the throne of this kingdom, and which expressly states, "That no person who has an Office, or Place of Profit under the king, or receives a Pension from the crown, shall be capable of serving as a member of the House of Commons:"-A radical Reform in the Representation of the Commons House of Parliament is, therefore, become absolutely necessary, to the restoration of the Constitution; and this Meeting highly approves of the Resolutions passed for that purpose, at the Crown and Anchor Tavern, London, on the first of May, 1809; believing that, without having recourse to theoretical speculations, or dangerous experiments in government, such a Reform, by recurring to the principles handed down to us by the wisdom and virtue of our forefathers, will effectually extirpate most, and check all those Abuses, the baneful effects of which are so widely extended; and so sensibly felt.

6. That it is, for the reasons abovementioned, the duty of the Inhabitants of Britain urgently, but temperately, to apply for the adoption of such measures as shall secure the reality and uses of representation, especially at this eventful moment, when all the nations that surround us have paid the forfeit of their corruption in the annihilation of their governments.

7. That the Thanks of this Meeting be given to those well-tried friends of their country, lord Cochrane, Mr. Madocks, major Cartwright, and other truly respectable characters, who are advocates for a full and fair Representation of the People in the Commons House of Parliament; a remedy which is equally necessary to the safety of the throne and the happiness and independence of the people.

8. That the Chairman be requested to sign these Resolutions as the act of this Meeting, and to transmit copies thereof to G. L. Wardle, esq. and to those gentlelut of for

94

me

FR the of of the

wa

the M the the the bii his du a

en Co Th se ins Wa

tuc ch

bit en an of of

> cit th in m dr ar

M op ha

th in

CO (la

and

my

stly

laid

in

ion

se,)

41.

the

to

ley

ion

ed

of

ed

ch

ho

he

n, er

11-

men mentioned in the 2nd and 7th Resolutions. Joshua Ingham, Chairman. .

Resolved unanimously, That the Thanks of this Meeting be given to the Chairman, for his conduct in the Chair.

(To be continued.)

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

FRENCH ARMY IN AUSTRIA.—Sixth Bulletin (concluded from p. 896.)

the enemy, 40,000 quintals, 400,000 rations of biscuits, and some hundred thousands of rations of bread. Austria had formed these magazines in order to march forward. They have been of great use to us.

Seventh Bulletin, dated Vienna, May 13.

On the 10th, at nine of the morning, the Emperor appeared before the gates of Vienna, with the corps of marshal duke of Montebello. It was at the same hour, on the same day, and exactly one month after the Austrian army had passed the Inn, and the Emperor Francis II. had rendered himself guilty of a perjury, the signal of his ruin. On the 5th of May the archduke Maximilian, brother of the Empress, a young prince, 26 years of age, presumptuous and without experience, of an ardent character, assumed the government of Vienna, and issued two Proclamations. Gen. Couroux traversed the suburbs, and gen. Tharreau repaired to the esplanade which separates them from the city At the instant he reached it, he was received by a discharge of musketry and cannon, and was slightly wounded. Of 300,000 inhabitants who compose the population of Vienna, the city, properly so called, which is surrounded by a bastion and a counterscarp, scarcely contains 80,000 inhabitants and 1,300 houses. The eight fauxbourgs of the town, which have retained the name of suburbs, and are separated from the city by a vast esplanade, and covered on the side of the country by intrenchments, inclose more than 5,000 houses, and are inhabited by more than 220,000, who draw their subsistence from the city, where are the markets and shops. The archduke Maximilian had caused registers to be opened for collecting the names of the inhabitants who were willing to defend them-Thirty individuals only inscribed selves. their names: all the others refused with indignation. Defeated in his hopes by the indignation. good sense of the people of Vienna, he collected ten battalions of the militia (landwher) and ten battalions of the line,

composing a force of from 15,000 to 16,000 men, and threw himself within the place.—The duke of Montebello sent him an aide-de-camp with a summons; but some butchers, and a few hundred fellows, satellites of the archduke Maximilian, rushed upon the parliamentaire, and one of them wounded him. The archduke ordered the wretch who had committed this infamous action to be led in triumph through the city, mounted on the horse of the French officer, and surrounded by the militia. - After this unheard-of violation of the rights of nations, the horrid spectacle was seen of one part of the city drawing upon the other part, and citizens directing their arms against their fellow citizens. His Majesty assured the deputies of his protection. He expressed the pain which the inhuman conduct of their sovereign had given him, who had not feared to deliver up his capital to all the calamities of war-who, himself striking a blow at his rights, instead of being the king and father of his subjects, had evinced himself their enemy and tyrant. His Majesty assured them that Vienna should be treated with the same indulgence and favour which had been displayed in 1805. deputation answered this assurance by expressions of the most lively gratitude. At nine of the morning the duke of Rivoli, with the divisions Saint Cyr and Boudet, took possession of the Leopoldstadt. ing this time, lieut. gen. O'Reilly sent lieut. gen. de Vaux and col. Bellonte to treat for the capitulation of the place. annexed capitulation was signed in the evening, and on the 13th, atsix of the morning, the grenadiers of Oudinot's corps took possession of the city. At nine of the evening a battery of 20 obusses, raised by generais Bertrand and Navalet, at 100 fathoms from the place, began the bombardment: 1,800 obusses were shot in less than four hours, and soon the whole appeared to be in flames. One must have seen Vienna, its houses of eight or nine stories, its narrow streets, and numerous population, within so narrow a compass, in order to form an idea of the tumult, disorder, and disasters which such an operation could not but occasion .- The archduke Maximilian had, at one in the morning, caused two battalions to march in close column, in order to attempt retaking the pavilion, which covered the raising of the bridge. The two companies of voltigeurs received them with a discharge of musquetry, which, with the 15 pieces of artillery from the right side, destroyed a part of the co-

were

coul

prac

expe

struc

save

tract

evid

cros

poss

offic

brid

that

cross

on th

the |

filled

all I

back

with

for t

with

comi

howe

an h

he 1

of th

Lorr

perso

most

taine

whic

woul

that

his !

soon

the I

whic

him,

repre

said a

to ha

And

Emp

" the

ande

--Co

prom

time

befor

and a

maje:

your

situal

has p

rank

is the

Avoi

given

lumn, and forced them to fly in great, disorder.—The archduke lost all presence of mind in the midst of the bombardment, and especially at the moment when he heard that we had crossed an arm of the Danube, and were on the march to cut off his retreat. As feeble and weak as he had been rash and arrogant, he was the first to fly and recross the bridge. The respectable general O'Reilly learnt only by the flight of the archduke, that he was invested with the command. Day-break on the 12th announced to the advanced guard, that the firing would cease, and that a deputation was about to be sent to the Emperor.—This deputation was presented to his majesty in the park of Schoenbrunn. It was composed of col. Dietrichstein, provisional marshal of the states; the prelate of Klosternenbourg; the prelate of the Scotch; count Pergen; count Veterani; baron Bartenstein; M. de Mayenberg; baron Hafen, referendary of Lower Saxony; all the members of the state; the archbishop of Vienna; baron Lederer, captain of the town; M. Wohlleben, burghermaster; M. Meher, vice burghermaster; Egger, Pinck, Heisn, counsellors of the municipality. Gen. Andreossy, appointed governor of the city, organised in each suburb a municipality, a central committee of provisions, and a national guard, consisting of merchants, manufacturers, and the good citizens of every class, armed to repress proprietors and evil disposed persons (pour contenir les proprietaires et les mauvais sujets.) -The governor general caused a deputation of the eight suburbs to repair to The Emperor charged Schoenbrunn. them to proceed to the city, in order to carry a letter written by major-gen. prince of Neufchatel, to the archduke Maximilian. He recommended the Deputies to represent to the archduke, that if he continued to fire upon the suburos, and if a single one of the inhabitants lost his life through his arms, this act of frenzy, this crime against the people, would for ever break the bonds which attach subjects to their sovereigns .- The Deputation entered the city on the 11th, at ten in the forenoon, and their arrival was marked only by the redoubled fire from the ramparts. teen inhabitants of the suburbs perished, and only two Frenchmen were killed. The patience of the Emperor was wearied He proceeded with the duke of Rivoli to the arm of the Danube which separates the Pratar (the fashionable promenade of Vienna), and ordered two compa-

nies of voltigeurs to occupy a small pavilion on the left bank, in order to cover the raising of a bridge. The battalion of grenadiers which defended the passage was driven back by the voltigeurs, and by the grapeshot of fifteen pieces of artillery. At eight of the evening the pavilion was occupied, and the materials of the bridge collected. Captain Portales, aide-de camp of the prince of Neufchatel, and — Susaldi, aide-de-camp of general Boudet, were among the first to swim across the river, in order to seek the boats on the opposite shore.

[The capitulation follows. It consists of sixteen articles, the substance of which is, that the garrison are permitted to march out with the honours of war; and after having defiled, to lay down their arms on the glacis, and surrender themselves prisoners of war. The officers to retain their property, and the soldiers their haversacks. All the public institutions to continue on the same footing, and the inhabitants to be protected in their properties, privileges, &c. The letter addressed by the prince of Neufchatel to the archduke Maximilian, is appended. It merely requests the archduke, for the sake of humanity, not to persist in his defence, as it would tend to the destruction of the capital and its citizens.]

Eighth Bulletin.

The people of Vienna praise the archduke Reiner. He was governor of Vienna, but when the revolutionary measures ordered by the emperor Francis II. came to his knowledge, he refused to retain the government. The archduke Maximilian was therefore appointed in his stead. This young prince, who displayed all the thoughtlessness that could be supposed to belong to his age, declared that he would bury himself under the ruins of the town. He collected altogether all the restless, the indolent, and the worthless, of whom there is always a multitude in a great city, furnished them with pikes, and distributed all the arms which were in the arsenal. In vain did the inhabitants represent to him that a great city, raised by infinite labour and expence to so high a pitch of grandeur, ought not to be exposed to the horrors and devastation with which war is Those representations, accompanied. however, only excited his passion, and his fury rose to such a height that he gave no other answer but the order to fire bombs and howitzers on the suburbs, which could kill the inhabitants only.

were protected by their fortifications, and could derive a farther security from the practice of war.—The people of Vienna experienced the most painful anxiety, and the town was believed to be devoted to destruction, when the emperor Napoleon, to save the capital from the evils of a protracted defence, by rendering all defence evidently useless, ordered the troops to cross the arm of the Danube, and to take possession of the Pratar.—At 8 o'clock an officer informed the archduke that a bridge was established at that quarter, that a great number of the French had crossed by swimming, and were already on that side of the river. At this news the hot-headed prince grew pale, and was filled with terror. He passed the Pratar in all haste; sent every battalion he met back by the bridge, and made his escape without having formed any arrangement for the defence of the town, and even without transferring to any person the command which he was abandoning. This however, was the very same man who but an hour before had boldly pretended that he would bury himself under the ruins of the capital .- The fate of the House of Lorraine was foreseen by all intelligent persons, though in other respects of the most opposite opinions. Manfredini obtained an audience of the Emperor, in which he represented to him that this war would long weigh heavy on his conscience, that it would bring about the downfall of his House, and that the French would soon be at Vienna, "Poh! Poh!" replied the Emperor, " they are all in Spain."-Thugut, in pursuance of the confidence which the Emperor formerly placed in him, took the liberty of making repeated representations.—The prince de Ligne said aloud, " I thought I was old enough not to have outlived the Austrian monarchy." And when the old count Wallis saw the Emperor set out to join the army, he said, " there is Darius running to meet an Alexander: he will experience the same fate." -Count Lewis Von Cobentzel, the chief promoter of the war of 1805, was at this time lying on his death-bed; but 24 hours before he expired, he addressed a vigorous and animated letter to the Emperor. "Your majesty," he wrote, "ought to consider yourself as fortunate with respect to the situation in which the peace of Presburgh has placed you. You are in the second rank among the powers of Europe, which is the same that your ancestors occupied. Avoid a war for which no provocation is given, and which will produce the ruin of

your house. Napoleon will conquer, and will then have the right to be inexorable," &c. This last act of count Cobentzel rendered his departing moments truly interesting.—The prince of Zizendorf, minister for foreign affairs, several statesmen, who, like him, remained free from the contagion and fatal blindness of the moment; several other persons of distinction, and all that were respectable among the burghers, entertained the same sentiments, and spoke in the same manner.—But the wounded pride of the emperor Francis II. the hatred of the archduke Charles against Russia, and the displeasure with which he viewed the close union between that empire and France, the gold of England, which had purchased the minister Stadion, the levity and inconsiderateness of some dozens of women, or effeminate men, the deceptions and false reports of count Metternich, the intrigues of the Razumowskis, the Dalphozzos, the Schlegels, the Gentzes, and other adventurers, whom England maintains for the purpose of sowing discord on the continent, have promoted this foolish, impious war. - Before the French were victorious in the field, it was said that they were few in number; that there were no more of them in Germany; that the corps consisted entirely of conscripts; that the cavalry were without horses; that the Imperial Guard had mutinied, and that the Parisians were in insurrection against the emperor Napoleon. After we had conquered, however, the French army was innumerable; it never was formed of more veteran or braver troops; the attachment of the soldiers to the emperor Napoleon tripled and quadrupled their force; the cavalry was well mounted, numerous and formidable; the artillery was better served than that of any other nation, and moved with the rapidity of lightning, &c. &c .- Weak princes! Corrupt Cabinets! ignorant, fickle, besotted men! Such are the snares which England has these fifteen years constantly spread for you, and into which you will readily fall. But the catrastrophe you prepared is at length developed, and the peace of the continent is for ever secured .- Yesterday the Emperor reviewed gen. Nansoutz's division of heavy cavalry. He bestowed much praise on the appearance of this fine division, which, after so severe a campaign, exhibited 5,000 horses in order of battle. jesty filled up the vacancies by new appointments, and bestowed the title of Baron, with an estate, on the bravest officer, and the decoration of the Legion of Ho-

diss

hav

of

hav

ene

awa

bec

me

brie

arc

Fre

day

jun

wo

Kr

wa

Hi

ob

Fin

jun

sev

car

Da

lea pla

40

CO

aft

ve

the

gr

fu

Bu

th

on

co

W

co

T

W

no

tri

ki

m

th

C

N

th

m

nour, with 1,200 franks, on the bravest cuirassier of each regiment. We found at Vienna 500 pieces of cannon, a vast number of gun-carriages and muskets, a great quantity of powder, abundance of ready made military accoutrements, and a heap of bullets and cast iron.—Only ten houses were destroyed during the bombardment. The people of Vienna remarked, that this misfortune had justly fallen on those who were the most zealous promoters of the war, and they perceived then that general Andreossy directed the batteries .- The appointment of this general to the government of Vienna, has proved highly satisfactory to all the inhabitants. He had left behind in the capital an honourable recollection, and enjoys the general respect of the people. A few days rest have greatly benefited the army; and the weather is now so fine, we have scarce any sick. The wine distributed to the troops is in abundance, and of excellent quality. -The Austrian government has made astonishing efforts for the support of this war. It is calculated that the preparations have cost above 300 millions in paper money. The mass of bills in circulation exceeds in value 1,500 millions. The court of Vienna has carried off the plates of this sort of assignats, for which a part of the mines of the monarchy are mortgaged, that is to say, their security is a property almost chimerical, and over which the holders of the paper have no controul. While a paper money which the public could not reject, and which daily increased in value, was thus widely multiplied, the court, through the bankers of Vienna, bought up all the gold that could be procured, and sent it to a foreign country. A month has scarcely elapsed since chests full of gold ducats, sealed with the Imperial seal, were forwarded by the

north of Germany to Holland.

Order.—1. The Militia, called the Landwher, is disbanded.—2. A general amnesty is granted to all who belong to the said Militia, and who shall return to their homes at the farthest within 14 days after the entrance of our troops into the territory in which they have been raised.—3. If the officers do not return within the aforesaid time, their houses shall be burnt, and their property declared forfeited.—4. The villages which have furnished men for this Militia, called the Landwher, shall be bound to recal them, and to deliver up the arms they placed in their hands.—5. The commandants of the several provinces are charged with the necessary measures

for the execution of this Decree.—In our Imperial Palace, at Schoenbrunn, May 14.—(Signed) Napoleon.—By order of the Emperor, Alexander, Prince of Neufchatel, major-general.

Ninth Bulletin, dated Vienna, May 19.

While the army was taking some repose at Vienna; while its corps were re-uniting, and while the Emperor was reviewing the troops, in order to distribute rewards to the brave men who had distinguished themselves, and filling up the vacancies which had occurred, every necessary preparation was made for the important operation of the passage of the Danube .-After the battle of Eckmuhl, prince Charles being driven to the other side of the Danube, had no other refuge than the mountains of Bohemia.-By pursuing the remains of prince Charles's army into the interior of Bohemia, the Emperor might have taken from him his artillery and baggage, but this advantage was not sufficient to counterbalance the hardships to which the army would have been exposed during a march of 14 days, through a miserable, mountainous, and desolate country .- The Emperor adopted no plan which might procrastinate his entrance into Vienna even for a day, as he rightly conjectured, that in the state of excitation which prevailed, it would be attempted to present some obstacles by defending the town, which has a very good breastwork, provided with bastions.—Besides, his army of Italy demanded all his attention, and the idea that the Austrians were in possession of his fine provinces of Frioli and Piave, never permitted him to repose. The duke of Auerstadt was posted be-fore Ratisbon when prince Charles retreated into Bohemia; but he immediately proceeded by Passau and Lintz to the left bank of the Danube, thus gaining four marches on that Prince. The corps of the prince of Ponte Corvo acted upon a like system, and made a movement towards Egra, which obliged prince Charles to direct the corps of gen. Bellegarde to-wards the same point; but the prince of Ponte Corvo made a bold counter-march towards Lintz, which he reached before gen. Bellegarde, who being aware of this counter-march had also moved towards the Danube. — These manœuvres, performed from day to day, according to circumstances, have delivered Italy; have thrown the barriers of the Inn, of the Salza, of the Traun, and all the enemy's magazines, out of defence; have reduced Vienna, have

[952

n our

of the

ufcha-

19.

repose e-unit-

ewing

wards

nished

ancies

y pre-

ope-

harles

e Da-

houn-

e re-

o the

night

and

t suf-

ps to

osed

gh a

oun-

hich

Vi-

con-

tion

pted

ding east-

des,

ten-

rere

rioli

ose.

be-

Te-

elv

left

our

the

kė

rds

to

to-

ch

be.-

have completed the overthrow of the corps of the archd. Lewis and gen. Hiller, and have still farther withered the fame of the enemy's general .- This commander being aware of the march of the Emperor, it became necessary for him to make a movement towards Lintz, in order to pass the bridge and unite with the corps of the archd. Lewis and general Hiller. The French army however was there for some days before he could approach to form a junction. He imagined perhaps that he would be able to effect his junction at Krems, but that was a vain hope. He was again four days too late, and gen. Hiller, when he passed the Danube, was obliged to burn the same bridge of Krems. Finally, he hoped to be able to effect a junction at Vienna, but he was once more several days behind.—The Emperor has caused a bridge to be thrown over the Danube, at the village of Ebersdorf, two leagues below Vienna. The river is at this place divided into several branches, and is 400 toises broad. This work was only commenced yesterday at four o'clock in the afternoon. Molitor's division was conveyed across to the left bank, and routed the weak detachments which disputed the ground with it, and attempted to cover the furthest branch of the river.—Generals Butrand and Parnetti are superintending the construction of two bridges, of which one is more than 240, and the other more than 130 toises long, and which communicate in the middle of the river by an island. It is hoped that the works will be finished to-morrow.—All the accounts we receive induce us to believe that the emperor of Austria is at Zanim. There is still no rising in Hungary! In want of arms, saddles, and money, and not much attached to the House of Austria, this nation appears to have refused all kind of assistance.—Gen. Lauriston, his majesty's aid-de-camp, has marched at the head of the Baden infantry, and gen. Colbert's brigade of light cavalry from Neustadt to Brucken on the Simeringberg, which is a high hill dividing thewaters that run into the Black Sea and the Mediterranean. In the course of this difficult march he took 100 prisoners.ellin has marched towards Marinzell. He has disarmed about 1,000 of the landwhers, and made a number of prisoners. The duke of Dantzic has advanced to Inspruck. At Vorgel on the 14th, he fell in with gen. Chastellar and his Tyrolese, routed him, and took 700 prisoners,

dissolved the militia and the landwher, and 11 pieces of cannon.—On the 12th Kufstein was relieved. His majesty's chamberlain, M. Germain, who was shut up in the place, conducted himself with propriety.-The position of the army is at present as follows: - The corps of marshals the dukes of Rivoli and Montebello, and the grenadier corps of general Oudinot, are at Vienna along with the Imperial Guard. Marshal the prince of Ponte Corvo is at Lintz with the Saxons and Wirtemberghers, and has a corps of reserve at Passau. Marshal the duke of Dantzic is with the Bavarians at Saltzburgh and Inspruck .- Colonel the count of Czernichew, aid-de-camp of the emperor of Russia, who had been sent to Paris, arrived at the head-quarters as the army was entering Vienna. He has since served in the army, and attends on his majesty. He has brought intelligence respecting the Russian army, which was not to break up from its cantonments before the 10th or 12th of this month.

Tenth Bulletin, dated Ebersdorf, May 23.

Opposite to Ebersdorf the Danube divides into three branches separated by two islands. The distance from the right bank to the island on that side, which is 140 toises in circumference, is about 1,000 The distance from this island to the greater is 120 toises, and here the stream runs with the greatest force. The larger of the two islands is called In-der-Lobau, and the water which separates it from the main land is 70 toises broad. The first villages which appear after crossing are Gross-Aspern, Esling, and Enzerdorf. The passage of such a river as the Danube, in the presence of an enemy well acquainted with all the local circumstances, and who has the inhabitants on his side, is one of the greatest military enterprises that can be imagined.—Thebridge over the arm of the river which separates the right bank from the first island, and the bridge from this island to that of In-der-Lobau, were erected on the 19th. Molitor's division had been conveyed to the great island on the 18th by row boats .- On the 20th the Emperor arrived at In-der-Lobau, and caused a bridge to be thrown over the least arm of the Danube from that island to the left bank, between Gross-Aspern and Esling. This arm being not quite 70 toises broad only 15 pontoons were required for the operation, which were fixed within three hours by colonel Aubry, of the artillery.

—Colonel St. Croix, aid-de-camp of marshal the duke of Rivoli, arrived first on

b

the left bank, in an open boat, and general Lassalle's division of the light cavalry, with Molitor and Boudet's divisions, passed during the night. Afterwards the Emperor, accompanied by the prince of Neufchatel, the dukes of Rivoli and Montebello, examined the position of the left bank, and determined the field of battle, posting the right on the village of Esling, and the left on the village of Gross-Aspern. Both villages were likewise garrisoned .- On the 21st, at four in the afternoon, the enemy's army shewed itself, and appeared to have for its object to defeat our van guard, and to drive it into the river. Vain enterprise!—The duke of Rivoli was the first attacked at Gross-Aspern, by the corps of general Bellegarde. He manœuvred with the divisions of Molitor and Legrand, and reudered completely abortive all the attacks which the enemy made that evening. The duke of Montebello defended the village of Esling, and marshal the duke of Istria covered the plain with the light cavalry and Espagne's division of cuirassiers, protecting at the same time Ewyensdorf; the contest was severe, the enemy having 200 pieces of cannon and 90,000 men, collected from the remains of all the Austrian corps.-D'Espagne's division of cuirassiers, which made several fine charges, advanced in two squares, and took 14 pieces of cannon, but a ball killed gen. D'Espagne while fighting gloriously at the head of his troops. He was a brave man, and in every respect eminent and praiseworthy. general of brigade Foulers was likewise killed in a charge.—General Nansoutz arrived in the evening on the field of battle, with the single brigade commanded by gen. St. Germain, and distinguished himself by several brilliant charges. At eight o'clock the action terminated, and we remained masters of the field .- During the night, gen. Oudinot's corps, St. Hillaire's division, and two brigades of light cavalry, and the train of artillery, passed over by the bridges.-On the 22d the duke of Rivoli was the first engaged at four in the morning. The enemy made several successive attacks, in order to retake the village. At last the duke of Rivoli, tired of acting on the defensive, attacked the enemy in his turn, and threw them into confusion. Gen. Legrand distinguished himself by the coolness and intrepidity which characterise him.—The general of division Boudet was stationed at the village of Esling, and had had orders to defend that important position.-Observing, that the

enemy occupied a very wide space between his right and left wing, it was resolved to penetrate by his centre. The duke of Montebello led the attack. Gen. Oudinot was on the left, St. Hillaire's division was on the centre, and Boudet's division was on the right wing. The enemy's centre would not withstand the sight of our troops.-In a moment every thing was borne down before them. The duke of Istria made several brilliant and successful attacks. Three columns of infantry were charged and cut down by the cuiras. siers. The Austrian army was on the point of being destroyed, when at seven in the morning an aid-de-camp of the Emperor came to inform him that the sudden rise of the Danube had set affoat a great number of trees, which were cut down during the late events at Vienna, and rafts which had been left on the bank; and that the bridges which formed the communication between the right bank and the little island, and between the little island and that of In-der-Lobau, had thereby been carried away. This rapid swell, which usually does not take place until the middle of June on the melting of the snow, has been accelerated by the great heat which has for some days prevailed. All the reserve parks of artillery which where advancing, were by the loss of the bridges detained on the right bank, as was also a part of our heavy cavalry, and the whole of the duke of Auerstadt's corps. This dreadful accident induced the Emperor to put a stop to the movement in advance. He ordered the duke of Montebello to keep the field of battle which had been won, and then to take his position, with the left wing resting on a curtain-work, which the duke of Rivoli covered, and his right wing at Esling. The artillery and infantry cartridges which were in our reserve park could not now be brought across the river. The enemy was in a most frightful state of disorder at the moment, when he learned that our bridges The slackening of were broken down. our fire, and the concentrating movement of our army, soon left him no doubt respecting this unforeseen accident. his cannon and artillery equipage, which were before on the retreat, were again drawn out in line, and from nine in the morning to seven in the evening he made most astonishing exertions, supported by the fire of 200 pieces of cannon, to throw the French army into disorder; but all his efforts tended to his own disgrace. Thrice he attacked the villages of Esling

be-

re-

The

en.

re's et's

ene-

ight

ing

uke

ess-

try

ras-

the

ven the

ud-

ta

cut

na, nk;

he

nk

the

ad

oid

ce

of

eat

d.

ch

he

as

nd

S.

1in

n-

0-

li

h

e

5

e

f

The fusiliers of the them with his dead. guards, commanded by general Monton, acquired great glory; they defeated the reserve, formed of all the grenadiers of the Austrian army, and the only fresh troops which remained to the enemy. Gen. Gros put to the sword 700 Hungarians, who had succeeded in entrenching themselves in the church-yard of Esling. The tirailleurs under the command of gen. Curial, performed their first service this day, and proved that they possessed courage. Gen. Dorsenne, col. commandant of the old guards, posted his troops in the third line, forming a brazen wall, which was alone capable of withstanding all the efforts of the Austrian army. The enemy discharged 40,000 cannon shot against us, while we, deprived of our reserve parks, were under the necessity of sparing our ammunition, lest some other unforeseen events should occur.—In the evening, the enemy returned to his old position, which he had left previous to the commencement of the attack, and we remained masters of the field. His loss is very great: it being estimated by the most experienced officers that he left more than 12,000 dead on the field. According to the reports of the prisoners the enemy have had 23 generals and 60 superior officers killed or wounded. Lieut. field marshal Weber and 1,500 men, and four standards, have fallen into our hands. Our loss has also been considerable. We have 1,100 killed and 3,000 wounded.—The duke of Montebello was wounded by a cannon ball in the thigh, at six o'clock in the evening of the 22d; but an amputation has taken place, and his life is out of danger. At first it was thought that he was killed, and being carried on a hand-barrow to where the Emperor was, his adieu was most affecting. In the midst of all the anxieties of the day the Emperor gave himself up to the expression of that tender friendship which during so many years he has cherished for this brave companion in arms. Some tears rolled from his eyes, and turning to those who surrounded him, he said, " My heart required such a painful stroke as this, to make me occupy myself, on this day, with any other care than that of my army." The duke of Montebello was insensible, but recovered himself in the presence of the Emperor: he embraced him and said, "Within an hour you will have lost him who dies with the glory and the consolation of being your best friend."-The general of division, St. Hillaire, is also skill.

and Gross-Aspern, and thrice he filled wounded; he is one of the first generals of France. Gen. Durosnel, aid-de-camp to the Emperor, was also killed by a cannon-ball, while he was carrying an order.—The soldiers displayed all that coolness and intrepidity which is peculiar to the French only.—The water of the Danube still increasing, the bridges of the Danube could not be restored during the night; the Emperor, therefore, ordered the army, on the 23d, to pass from the left bank across the little arm, and take a position in the island of In-der-Lobau, protecting the tetes du ponte.-The works for replacing the bridge are continued with assiduity, and nothing will be undertaken until they are secure, not only against the accidents of the water, but against any thing that may be attempted against them. The rise of the river, and the rapidity of the stream, must require much labour and great caution.—On the 23d, when the army was informed that the Emperor had ordered it to retreat to the great island, nothing could exceed the astonishment of the brave troops; victorious on both days, they had supposed that the remainder of the army had joined them; but when they were told that the high water had carried away the bridges, and that its continued increase rendered the renewal of their ammunition and provisions impracticable, and that any movement in advance would be absurd, it was with great difficulty they could be persuaded of the truth of the -That bridges constructed of statement .the largest boats of the Danube, secured by double anchors and cables, should be carried away, was a great and entirely unforeseen disaster; but it was extremely fortunate that the Emperor was not two hours later of being informed of it. army in pursuing the enemy would have exhausted its ammunition, which it would have been impossible to replace.—On the 23d a great quantity of ammunition was sent to the camp at In-der-Lobau.-The battle of Esling, of which a circumstantial report shall be made, pointing out the brave men who distinguished themselves therein, will, in the eyes of posterity, be a new memorial of the glory and inflexible. firmness of the French army.-The marshals the dukes of Montebello and Rivoli on that day displayed all the powers of their military character.—The Emperor has given the command of the 2d corps to gen. count Oudinot, a general tried in a hundred battles, in which he has always evinced the possession of equal courage as

C

ir

th

th

0

th

Eleventh Bulletin, dated Ebersdorf, May 24.

The duke of Dantzic is master of the Tyrol, and entered Inspruck on the 19th, the whole territory having submitted .-On the 11th the duke of Dantzic took the strong position of the Strub-pass, with seven cannon and 600 men.—On the 13th, after defeating Chasteller in the position of Voergel, putting him to flight, and taking all his artillery, he pursued him near to Rullenberg, where the wretched fugitive was indebted for his safety only to the speed of his horse.—General De Roy at the same time raised the blockade of the fortress of Kufstein, forming his junction with the troops commanded by the duke of Dantzic, who greatly praises the conduct of general Palm and several other officers (named in the Bulletin) .- Chasteller entered the Tyrol with a handful of brave men, and preached up insurrection, plunder, and murder. He saw several thousand Bavarians and a hundred French soldiers put to death before his eyes. He even encouraged the murders by his own applause, and provoked all the cruelty of these mountain boors. Among the murdered French were about sixty Belgians, all countrymen of Chasteller. That wretch, loaded with the favours of the Emperor, to whom he owed the restoration of his property, amounting to several millions, is insusceptible to the feelings of gratitude, as well as to the affection which even barbarians entertain for their countrymen .-The Tyroiese detest the man whose treacherous conduct instigated them to rebellion, and who thereby brought upon them all its consequent evils. The rage against Chasteller is so great, that when after what happened at Voergel he took refuge at Hall, they attacked him with cudgels, and gave him such a drubbing that he kept his bed for two days, and durst not venture to make his appearance, except to request a capitulation: he was told, however, that no capitulation would be granted to a highway robber, upon which he fled towards the mountains of Carinthia.-The valley of Zillerthal was the first which submitted, laid down arms, and gave hostages. The remainder of the territory has followed this example. All the chiefs have ordered the boors to return to their homes, and they are leaving the mountains and returning to their villages. The town of Inspruck and all the villages have

sent deputies to the king of Bavaria to offer pledges of their fidelity, and to supplicate his mercy.—The Vorariburghers, who have been misled by the exasperating proclamations and artifices of the enemy, will follow the example of the Tyrol, and that part of Germany will then be completely freed from all the horrors and misfortunes of popular insurrection.

Twelfth Bulletin, dated Ebersdorf, May 26.

On the 23rd and 24th the army was employed to restore the bridges, which were ready the 25th, early in the morning, and the wounded, caissons, &c. were removed to the right banks of the Danube .-The Danube being likely to rise until the 15th of June, it is intended to mark the heights of the river by poles driven into the ground, to which the large iron chain is to be fastened which the Turks had destined for the same purpose, but the Austrians took it from them, and it was found in the arsenal of Vienna. measure, and the works which are constructed on the left bank of the Danube, will enable us to manœuvre on both sides of that river. Our light troops have taken post near Presburgh, on the lake of Neusiedel. Gen. Lauriston is in Styria, at Simeringsberg and Bruck. The duke of Dantzic is hastening, by forced marches, at the head of the Bavarian troops, to join the army of Vienna; the horse-chasseurs of the imperial guard arrived here yesterday; the dragoons were expected in the course of the day; and within a few days the horse-grenadiers, and 60 pieces of ordnance attached to the guards, will reach this place. - By the Capitulation of Vienna, seven marshal-lieutenants, nine major-generals, 10 colonels, 20 majors and lieutenant-colonels, 100 captains, 150 lieutenants, 200 second lieutenants, and 3,000 noncommissioned officers and soldiers were made prisoners of war, exclusively of those who were in the hospital, and whose numbers amount to some thousands.

BATTLE OF URFAR.—On the 17th inst. at two in the afternoon, three Austrian columns, under the command of generals Grainville, Bucalwitz, and Somma Riva, and supported by a reserve under gen. Jellachich, attacked gen. Vandamme at the village of Urfar, in the front of the bridge-head at Lintz.

(To be continued.)